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Cover: Baird's Sandpiper at Lily Pons, Maryland, September 9-11, 1990. Photo by Steve Whitcomb.

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CAROLINA WREN NESTING IN MY CAR

ELLICOTT McCONNELL

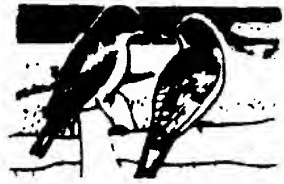
The following experience may be of interest. I regularly park my car in the same spot in front of our house, located in a wooded area near Easton, Maryland. During the first part of May, 1991, I repeatedly noticed a Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) in the vicinity of the car whenever I prepared to drive off, but thought little of it as they are common here and can be seen almost every day of the year tirelessly searching nooks and crannies around our home. On May 14, however, I had already driven more than one hundred yards when a wren flew up in front of the windshield; I then realized what should have been obvious before, that the birds had built a nest somewhere in the car. I soon found the nest, on the ledge in the front of the firewall which contains the air intake, washer fluid reservoir, etc., accessible to the wrens through a small space in front of the windshield, but otherwise covered by the trailing edge of the hood.

There was no alternative but to remove the nest, which contained six typical eggs, a large clutch, but by no means unheard of. Wishing to make the best of a poor situation, and thinking that a friend who is licensed to rescue and retain wild birds might find the nest a useful educational tool, I decided to blow the eggs. I was able to blow two obviously unincubated eggs with no trouble, but a third egg, which crumbled under slight pressure, contained a well-developed embryo. Inspection of the rest of the eggs revealed that three of the six were fresh, and three were in a late stage of incubation.

Inasmuch as the car is used on a daily basis, and is often away from home, it appears that in the bird's forced absence during this year's (1991) cool spring weather maintained the nest at incubation, but no coddling, temperatures even when the car was parked for hours in the full sun.

More curious is the presence of what have to be considered two separate clutches of eggs at different stages of development. Had the first clutch, in fact, died, and the bird, sensing this, produced a second clutch of eggs in the same nest? Or perhaps the first female was killed and her nest taken over by a second female, which laid a new clutch of eggs in the presence of an older one. Neither alternative seems very likely, but one or the other must have been the case.

9611 Galleys Cove Lane, Easton, MD



THE SEASON

SPRING MIGRATION, MARCH 1 - MAY 31, 1992

DANIEL R. SOUTHWORTH and LINDA SOUTHWORTH

As a result of the mild winter, many birds arrived early. The spring was cold, however, with average temperatures farther below normal each successive month; many species lingered. Check the arrival and departure dates in Table 1 to compare how each species varied from the medians. Following the trend of recent spring periods, northern finch reports were low. Warbler and other passerine sightings were generally poor.

Observers: Henry and George Armistead, Maurice Barnhill, John Bjerke, Rick Blom, Connie Bockstie, Larry Bonham, Ed Boyd, Carol and Don Broderick, Gwen Burkhardt, Martha Chestem, John Churchill, Dave Czaplak, Phil and Barbara Davis, Bob Dixon, Ethel Engle, Jane Farrell, Roberta Fletcher (reporting for Caroline County), David Gersten, Inez Glime, Jim & Patricia Gruber, Dave Harvey, Marvin Hewitt, Robert Hilton, Mark Hoffman, Dick Homan, Marshall Iliff, Ottavio Janni, George Jett, Dennis Kirkwood, Harry Krueger, Dave Kubitsky, Ellen Lawler, Morrs Lippencott, Doug Lister, Nancy Magnusson, Mike & Grazina McClure, Stauffer Miller, Dotty Mumford, Paul Nistico, Mariana Nuttle, Michael O'Brien, Matthew O'Donnell, Bonnie Ott, Jim Paulus, Betty Pitney (reporting for Wicomico Bird Club), Kyle Rambo, Jan Reese, Sue Ricciardi, Bob Ringler, Wilbur Rittenhouse, Norm Saunders, Gene Scarpulla, William Scudder, L. T. Short, Steve Simon, Teresa Simons, Connie Skipper, Jo Solem (reporting for Howard County), Dan & Linda Southworth, Jim Stasz, Mary Twigg, Dave Walbeck, Mark Wallace, Robert Warfield, Joy Wheeler, Jim Wilkinson, Erica Wilson, Helen Zeichner. Banding was conducted at Eastern Neck NWR by Jim and Trish Gruber.

Pelagic Reports: There were some excellent sightings during the pelagic trips organized out of Ocean City by Gene Scarpulla. The trip leaders are acknowledged under the Observers, but sightings are listed in the text as (Scarpulla+).

Abbreviations: DC - District of Columbia, NWR - National Wildlife Refuge, PRNAS - Patuxent River Naval Air Station (St. Mary's), SP - State Park, UMCF - University of Maryland Central Farm (Howard), WMA - Wildlife Management Area.

Locations: Place names (with counties in parentheses) not in the index of the state highway map: Assateague Island (Worcester), Barren Island (Dorchester), Black Hill Park (Montgomery), Blackwater NWR (Dorchester), Blockhouse Point (Montgomery), Deep Creek Airport (Anne Arundel), Deep Creek Lake (Garrett), Eastern Neck NWR (Kent), Fort Smallwood Park (Anne Arundel), Fulton Pond (Howard), Green Ridge (Allegany), Hains Point (DC), Harford Glen Park (Harford), Hart-Miller Dredged Material Containment Facility (Baltimore), Hooper Island (Dorchester), Hughes Hollow (Montgomery), Irish Grove Sanctuary (Somerset), Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary (Anne Arundel), Lake Elkhorn (Howard), Lake Kittamaqundi (Howard), Little Meadows Lake (Garrett), Loch Raven (Baltimore), McKeldin Area of Patapsco Valley State Park (Carroll unless noted otherwise), Noland's Ferry (Frederick), Pennyfield Lock (Montgomery), Piney Run Park (Carroll), Poplar Island (Talbot), Remington Farms WMA (Kent), Rockburn Branch

Park (Howard), Rock Creek Park (DC), Rocky Gap SP (Allegany), Sandy Point SP (Anne Arundel), Schooley Mill Park (Howard), Sugarloaf Mountain (Frederick), Swallow Falls SP (Garrett), Sycamore Landing (Montgomery), Triadelphia Reservoir (Howard unless noted otherwise), Truitts Landing (Worcester), Town Hill (Allegany), Tuckahoe SP (Caroline unless noted otherwise), Violettes Lock (Montgomery).

Loons, Grebes. The first **Red-throated Loon** reported was a single bird at Sandy Point on March 27 by Stasz, who also found 3 at North Beach on April 8. One adult was at Blockhouse Point on April 2 (Czaplak, Gough), 500+ at Assateague on April 5 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 300+ near Governor Run on April 6 (Lippencott), 2 at Sandy Point on April 20 (Czaplak), and 200 were tallied on the April 25 pelagic trip out of Ocean City (Scarpulla+). Later reports included a single flyover at Blackwater on May 9 (H. Armistead), 2 first-winter birds at Seneca on May 17 (Mary Anne Todd), and 1 at Ocean City on May 22 (Czaplak). Migrant **Common Loons** included 1 at Cambridge on March 14 (Czaplak), 1 at North Point on March 15 (Blom), 43 inland at Deep Creek Lake the same day (Iliff), single birds at Loch Raven on March 20 (Simon), Triadelphia on March 21 (Magnusson), off Coltons Point and in St. Clements Bay on March 25 (Ringler), at Deep Creek Lake on March 26 (Skipper), and at Piney Run on March 29 (Ringler). High counts for the Common Loon were 80 in Ocean City on April 4 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 79 migrating through Ellicott City on April 9 (Ott), 78 at North Beach on April 9 (Stasz), 62 at Rocky Gap on April 21 (Simons), 95 at Loch Raven on April 22 (Simon), and 31 over Town Hill on April 28 (Paulus). Other Common Loons of note were 1 over the Pocomoke River on May 16 (Ringler), 3 at DC on May 29 (Janni), 1 at Triadelphia on May 30 (Farrell, Solem), and 1 at Lake Linganore on May 30 (Miller). Czaplak noted 2 **Pied-billed Grebes** at Little Seneca Lake on March 7 and 6 there on April 4. Simon found the high of 16 at Loch Raven on March 23. A Pied-billed chick was at Lilypons on May 18 (Czaplak) and 2 were seen there on May 20 (Miller). Inland **Horned Grebes** included 5 at Rocky Gap on March 8 (Twigg), 13 at Violettes Lock on March 31 (Bonham), and at least 12 at Little Seneca Lake the same day (Marie Plante). Horned Grebes numbered 53 at PRNAS on March 4 (Rambo, Lister), Jett discovered 40 at Point Lookout on March 14, Stasz reported 98 at North Beach on April 8th, and 54 were noted the same day at Poplar Island (Don Meritt, Reese). A **Red-necked Grebe** was reported at Ocean City on March 3-8 (Krueger+). Dotty Mumford discovered an **Eared Grebe** near Bay Ridge on March 22 and found another Anne Arundel County Eared Grebe in the South River near Quiet Waters Park on March 25.

Tubenoses, Gannets, Pelicans. Ocean City pelagic birders, braving very rough waters, were rewarded with 18 **Northern Fulmars** on March 1; 3 were notched on the April 25 trip (Scarpulla+). The April 25 trip also yielded 11 **Sooty Shearwaters**, 2 were in Maryland waters on May 15 with 7 **Wilson's Storm Petrels** (Ken Bass+), and 7-8 Sooties were spotted off Ocean City on May 21 (Hilton, Janni). A **Manx Shearwater** and 10 Wilson's Storm Petrels were checked off on the April 25 Ocean City pelagic trip (Scarpulla+). **Northern Gannets** once again made a strong showing with 213 on the March 1 Ocean City pelagic trip (Scarpulla+); 257 were at North Beach on March 11 (Stasz), and many flew by PRNAS the same day (Rambo, Lister). Other Gannet reports included 3 adults flying over the Chesapeake Bay in Harford County, seen from Betterton on March 14 (Stasz, Iliff), 33 at the Chesapeake Bay Bridge the same day (Czaplak), 6 at Cobb Island on March 15 (Stasz, Jett), 1 flying and diving for food in waters off Fort Smallwood Park the same day (Ricciardi), 9 at Cove Point on March 21 (Stasz), 2 off Coltons Point and 2 over the Potomac near Cobb Island on March 25 (Stasz, Ringler), 24 at Blackwalnut Point, Talbot County and 1 adult over the Wicomico River at Nanticoke on April 3 (Stasz), 80 at Ocean City on April 4 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 10 at Deal Island and 80+ at Wenona the same day (Stasz), 2 adults at Bellevue on April 5 (H. Armistead+),

Table 1. Median Arrival and Departure Dates, Spring 1992

SPECIES	ARRIVALS		DEPARTURES	
	10-YEAR MEDIAN	1992 MEDIAN	10-YEAR MEDIAN	1992 MEDIAN
Common Loon	3/31	3/27	5/21	5/24
Pied-billed Grebe	3/14	3/14	5/6	4/30
Horned Grebe	3/11	3/2	5/1	4/22
Double-crested Cormorant	3/27	3/28	6/2	6/1
American Bittern	4/8	4/10	5/4	5/5
Great Egret	4/3	3/30	—	—
Snowy Egret	4/10	3/31	—	—
Little Blue Heron	4/17	4/3	—	—
Cattle Egret	4/7	4/10	—	—
Green-backed Heron	4/17	4/17	—	—
Glossy Ibis	4/12	4/4	—	—
Tundra Swan	2/27	2/21	3/31	3/29
Snow Goose	2/21	—	4/2	4/5
Wood Duck	3/2	2/23	—	—
Green-winged Teal	3/8	3/16	4/28	4/25
Northern Pintail	2/21	2/16	3/30	3/16
Blue-winged Teal	3/21	3/23	5/12	5/4
Northern Shoveler	3/12	3/15	4/13	4/13
Gadwall	3/9	3/2	4/15	4/5
American Wigeon	3/5	3/7	4/18	4/19
Canvasback	2/25	2/25	4/1	4/4
Redhead	3/1	2/16	3/24	3/27
Ring-necked Duck	2/25	2/16	4/18	4/13
Greater Scaup	3/11	—	4/2	4/2
Lesser Scaup	3/6	3/6	4/30	4/19
Oldsquaw	3/20	3/23	4/13	4/13
Surf Scoter	3/16	—	4/26	4/19
Common Goldeneye	2/20	2/28	4/4	4/12
Bufflehead	3/5	3/6	4/28	4/24
Hooded Merganser	2/28	2/22	4/15	4/17
Common Merganser	2/17	2/11	4/4	4/11
Red-breasted Merganser	3/18	3/22	5/12	5/7
Ruddy Duck	3/20	3/16	5/5	4/25
Osprey - coastal plain	3/15	3/7	—	—
Osprey - upland	4/3	3/31	—	—
Northern Harrier	3/5	3/12	5/8	5/10
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3/10	3/13	5/12	5/10
Cooper's Hawk	3/12	3/13	—	—
Broad-winged Hawk	4/16	4/12	—	—
Rough-legged Hawk	—	—	3/27	4/4
American Kestrel	3/11	3/3	—	—
Merlin	4/4	4/1	5/6	5/10
Common Moorhen	4/25	4/27	—	—
American Coot	3/19	3/13	5/1	4/27
Black-bellied Plover	4/25	—	5/29	6/9
Semipalmated Plover	5/4	—	5/31	5/31
Killdeer	2/22	2/23	—	—

Table 1 (cont.). Median Arrival and Departure Dates, Spring 1992

SPECIES	ARRIVALS		DEPARTURES	
	10-YEAR MEDIAN	1992 MEDIAN	10-YEAR MEDIAN	1992 MEDIAN
Greater Yellowlegs	3/28	3/16	5/19	5/25
Lesser Yellowlegs	4/6	3/29	5/16	5/16
Solitary Sandpiper	4/19	4/19	5/20	5/18
Spotted Sandpiper	4/20	4/11	5/28	5/25
Ruddy Turnstone	4/27	—	5/29	6/1
Sanderling	4/15	—	6/5	6/5
Semipalmated Sandpiper	5/4	4/28	6/6	6/6
Least Sandpiper	4/21	4/17	5/22	5/24
White-rumped Sandpiper	5/8	—	6/8	6/7
Pectoral Sandpiper	3/29	4/3	5/5	4/25
Dunlin	4/12	4/18	6/2	5/27
Short-billed Dowitcher	4/21	4/19	6/1	6/10
Common Snipe	3/13	3/8	5/3	5/7
American Woodcock	2/28	2/28	—	—
Laughing Gull	3/30	3/29	—	—
Bonaparte's Gull	3/27	3/26	5/4	5/9
Ring-billed Gull	2/10	2/16	5/28	5/23
Caspian Tern	4/9	4/10	5/24	5/30
Royal Tern	4/14	4/13	—	—
Common Tern	5/15	4/14	—	—
Forster's Tern	4/12	4/8	—	—
Least Tern	5/4	4/24	—	—
Black Tern	5/9	5/7	5/2	6/1
Black-billed Cuckoo	5/7	5/2	—	—
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	5/3	5/3	—	—
Short-eared Owl	—	—	3/20	4/4
Common Nighthawk	5/7	5/7	—	—
Chuck-will's-widow	4/28	4/19	—	—
Whip-poor-will	4/21	4/18	—	—
Chimney Swift	4/15	4/12	—	—
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	4/27	4/19	—	—
Belted Kingfisher	3/16	3/9	—	—
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	3/27	3/16	4/22	4/14
Eastern Wood-Pewee	5/2	5/2	—	—
Acadian Flycatcher	5/2	5/2	—	—
Willow Flycatcher	5/16	5/9	—	—
Least Flycatcher	5/2	5/2	5/21	5/17
Eastern Phoebe	3/12	2/28	—	—
Great Crested Flycatcher	4/27	4/25	—	—
Eastern Kingbird	4/24	4/17	—	—
Purple Martin	3/29	3/29	—	—
Tree Swallow	3/21	3/13	—	—
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	4/2	3/31	—	—
Bank Swallow	4/18	4/18	—	—
Barn Swallow	4/3	4/1	—	—
Red-breasted Nuthatch	—	—	5/3	5/1
Brown Creeper	3/24	3/27	4/20	4/20

Table 1 (cont.). Median Arrival and Departure Dates, Spring 1992

SPECIES	ARRIVALS		DEPARTURES	
	10-YEAR MEDIAN	1992 MEDIAN	10-YEAR MEDIAN	1992 MEDIAN
House Wren	4/20	4/18	—	—
Winter Wren	—	—	4/23	4/15
Golden-crowned Kinglet	3/24	3/21	4/13	4/19
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	4/10	4/8	5/9	5/10
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	4/10	4/11	—	—
Eastern Bluebird	2/22	2/23	—	—
Veery	4/29	4/27	5/22	5/23
Gray-cheeked Thrush	5/12	5/16	5/25	5/26
Swainson's Thrush	5/2	5/3	5/28	5/29
Hermit Thrush	4/9	4/1	5/5	4/23
Wood Thrush	4/24	4/20	—	—
American Robin	2/20	2/17	—	—
Gray Catbird	4/24	4/24	—	—
Brown Thrasher	4/9	4/10	—	—
American Pipit	3/18	3/11	5/4	5/2
Cedar Waxwing	—	—	5/31	5/30
White-eyed Vireo	4/20	4/17	—	—
Solitary Vireo	4/20	4/18	5/7	5/10
Yellow-throated Vireo	4/27	4/25	—	—
Warbling Vireo	4/28	4/26	—	—
Red-eyed Vireo	4/25	4/22	—	—
Blue-winged Warbler	4/28	4/25	5/12	5/10
Golden-winged Warbler	4/28	4/29	5/12	5/9
Tennessee Warbler	5/4	5/5	5/21	5/18
Nashville Warbler	4/30	4/25	5/17	5/16
Northern Parula	4/19	4/16	—	—
Yellow Warbler	4/25	4/18	—	—
Chestnut-sided Warbler	5/1	5/1	5/21	5/17
Magnolia Warbler	5/3	5/5	5/26	5/28
Cape May Warbler	5/3	5/3	5/19	5/21
Black-throated Blue Warbler	4/30	4/29	5/20	5/19
Yellow-rumped Warbler	—	—	5/15	5/16
Black-throated Green Warbler	4/29	4/24	5/21	5/17
Blackburnian Warbler	5/3	4/29	5/22	5/17
Yellow-throated Warbler	4/12	4/10	—	—
Pine Warbler	3/16	3/3	—	—
Prairie Warbler	4/23	4/21	—	—
Palm Warbler	4/6	4/7	5/4	5/1
Bay-breasted Warbler	5/4	5/4	5/22	5/17
Blackpoll Warbler	5/3	5/9	5/30	6/3
Cerulean Warbler	4/28	4/26	—	—
Black-and-white Warbler	4/17	4/12	—	—
American Redstart	4/26	4/24	5/30	6/2
Prothonotary Warbler	4/23	4/23	—	—
Worm-eating Warbler	4/27	4/24	—	—
Ovenbird	4/19	4/12	—	—
Northern Waterthrush	4/28	4/24	5/24	5/25

Table 1 (cont.). Median Arrival and Departure Dates, Spring 1992

SPECIES	ARRIVALS		DEPARTURES	
	10-YEAR MEDIAN	1992 MEDIAN	10-YEAR MEDIAN	1992 MEDIAN
Louisiana Waterthrush	4/4	4/8	—	—
Kentucky Warbler	4/29	4/30	—	—
Mourning Warbler	5/18	5/13	5/30	6/3
Common Yellowthroat	4/20	4/17	—	—
Hooded Warbler	4/27	4/22	—	—
Wilson's Warbler	5/7	5/5	5/21	5/20
Canada Warbler	5/5	5/3	5/27	5/20
Yellow-breasted Chat	4/30	4/28	—	—
Summer Tanager	5/1	4/27	—	—
Scarlet Tanager	4/27	4/24	—	—
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	5/1	5/2	5/21	5/22
Blue Grosbeak	4/30	4/27	—	—
Indigo Bunting	4/29	4/25	—	—
Rufous-sided Towhee	3/28	3/18	—	—
American Tree Sparrow	—	—	3/20	3/25
Chipping Sparrow	3/28	3/30	—	—
Vesper Sparrow	4/2	4/4	—	—
Savannah Sparrow	3/29	3/29	5/12	5/9
Grasshopper Sparrow	4/25	4/23	—	—
Fox Sparrow	2/22	2/26	3/28	4/4
Lincoln's Sparrow	5/4	5/4	5/22	5/21
Swamp Sparrow	—	—	5/11	5/14
White-throated Sparrow	—	—	5/17	5/17
White-crowned Sparrow	—	—	5/11	5/11
Dark-eyed Junco	—	—	5/1	4/24
Bobolink	5/1	4/28	5/25	5/18
Red-winged Blackbird	2/20	2/21	—	—
Rusty Blackbird	3/11	3/9	4/30	4/28
Common Grackle	2/19	2/23	—	—
Brown-headed Cowbird	2/22	2/12	—	—
Orchard Oriole	4/27	4/23	—	—
Northern Oriole	4/27	4/26	—	—
Purple Finch	—	—	5/6	4/23
Pine Siskin	—	—	5/12	5/20

19 on the Choptank River between Cambridge and Tilghman Island on April 8 (Reese, Merrit), 12 at Bellevue on April 11 (Paul Spitzer, H. Armistead), 12 at North Beach on April 17 for the last of the season there (Stasz), 1 on the Potomac near Piney Point on April 19 (Ann Hobbs), 1 at Rock Point on May 11 (Jett), and 6-10 seen at Ocean City on May 21 (Hilton, Janni). A **Brown Pelican** was at Assateague on April 23 (Hoffman) and 75 were noted at Ocean City on April 25 (Reese). A **Pink-backed Pelican** escaped from the Baltimore Zoo on May 3 and was seen at Conowingo from May 19 through the summer (Glenn Therres).

Cormorants. **Great Cormorants** included 1 at North Beach on March 9 (Stasz), 6 at Cobb Island Light, St. Mary's County on March 25 (Stasz), 1 at Baltimore Light, Anne Arundel County on March 27 (Stasz), 1 at Cobb Island on March 29 (Stasz, Iliff), an immature at Ocean Pines on May 2 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), an adult at Elliott Island on May 9 (H. Armistead), and 1 at Ocean City on May 22 (M. O'Brien). Spring **Double-crested Cormorants** were prominent once again with 1 at Ocean City on March 1 (Hoffman), peak counts of 130 at Leonardtown and 300 at Abells Wharf, St. Mary's County on March 25 (Stasz, Ringler), 242 in DC on April 11 and 59 on May 30 (Czaplak), up to 200 at Conowingo on April 6 (Kent Michaelek), 3000 in the Assateague and Ocean City area on April 17 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), and 2000+ at Ocean City on April 25 (Reese). The numerous inland reports included 6 at Town Hill on April 1 (Paulus), 23 on the Potomac at Pennyfield on April 10 (Krueger), 9 at Loch Raven on April 13 (Wheeler), 7 at Little Seneca Lake on April 23 (Czaplak), 49 at Centennial on April 24 (Farrell), 12 over Town Hill on May 1 (Paulus), 27 at Triadelphia on May 10 (Magnusson), 4 immatures at Jennings Randolph Reservoir, Garrett County on May 24 (Stasz), 1 immature at Big Pool on May 25 (Stasz), another immature near Frederick on May 27 (Miller), 59 in DC on May 30 (Czaplak), 1 bird at Rocky Gap on May 31 (Simons), and 1 at Loch Raven on June 2 (Wheeler).

Herons, Ibis. Single **American Bitterns** were seen in 11 counties this spring from March 21 at Cove Point (Stasz), to May 14 at Port Tobacco (Jett). Hoffman noted a **Least Bittern** at Assateague on April 23, and 2 birds were at Lilypons on May 20 (Miller, Czaplak). Migrant **Great Blue Herons** included 18 at Assateague on April 3 (Hoffman), and 1 at North Branch on May 19 seen dragging a four-foot branch (Twigg). **Great Egret** reports included several at Deal Island WMA on March 12 (Charles Williams), and single birds at Assateague on March 15 (Hoffman) and Denton on March 21 (Stasz, Iliff). Inland Greats included single birds at Lake Elkhorn on April 7 (Farrell, Waughs), at Centennial on May 22 (Bockstie, Solem), and flying over Fletcher's Boathouse, DC on May 29 (Janni). The first reports of **Snowy Egrets** were several at Deal Island WMA on March 12 (Charles Williams), 2 at West Ocean City on March 14 (Hoffman), 1 inland at New Germany SP on April 8 (Twigg), an inland bird at Lilypons on April 30 (Warfield), 1 at Loch Raven on May 2-3 (Simon), and 7 at Eastern Neck on May 28 (Grubers). An adult **Little Blue Heron** was seen throughout the spring beginning March 23 at Harford Glen Park (Kirkwood). Another adult was spotted flying up the Bay at North Beach on April 1 (Stasz), and single birds were at Assateague on April 3 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien) and at Annapolis on April 11 (Iliff). **Tricolored Heron** reports included several at Deal Island WMA on March 12 (Charles Williams), 1 flying up the bay near Barren Island on March 29 (Morrs & Randi Lippencott, Iliff), 1 at North Beach on April 11 (Stasz), 3 at Assateague on April 12 (Hoffman), and 1 at Deep Creek Airport, Anne Arundel County on April 18 (Ringler, Stasz, Bill Kulp). Paul Nistico observed a flock of 10 **Cattle Egrets** at Accokeek during April 25 - May 9, and other reports included about 15 at Ocean Pines on April 4 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 25 near Oakland, Anne Arundel County on April 18 (Ringler, Kulp, Stasz), 155 at West Ocean City on April 26 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), and 65 at Easton on May 1 (Reese). Single early **Green-backed Herons** were at Ellicott City (Ott) and Lake Kittamaqundi (Zeichner) on April 10. **Black-crowned Night-Herons** included 30 at West Ocean City on April 4 (Hoffman), 1 at Chesapeake Beach on April 11 (Stasz), 2 at Wilde Lake on April 13 (Zeichner, Chestem, Ott, Solem), several at Lilypons on April 18-30 (Miller), 5 along the C&O Canal near Bethesda on May 9 (Homan), and an immature at Centennial on May 22 (Farrell, Bockstie). Single **Yellow-crowned Night-Herons** were at Hughes Hollow on April 6 (Krueger) and Annapolis on April 7 (Stasz, Iliff, Walbeck+), Hoffman noted 2 adults at West Ocean City on April 23, and 2 were at Rock Creek Park on April 24 (Janni). Connie Skipper discovered an immature Yellow-crowned at Bittinger on May 5. **Glossy Ibis** reports were 5 near Snow Hill on March 21 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 11 at Blackwater

on March 29 (Stones), 100 near Libertytown, Worcester County on April 3 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 1 at Hains Point on May 2 (Janni), 3 seen flying over Fort Smallwood Park on May 2 (Ricciardi), and 3 at Fulton Pond on May 8 (Chestem, Magnusson, Solem+).

Swans, Geese. Sightings of **Tundra Swans** included 2500 at Eastern Neck on March 1 (Grubers), 137 at PRNAS on March 4 (Rambo, Lister), 180 inland at Loch Raven on March 8 (Simon), and 260 over Hammond Village, Howard County on March 9 (George Chase). Czaplak identified a **Tundra x Trumpeter** hybrid swan at Lilypons on March 22. The Grubers counted 62 **Mute Swans** at Eastern Neck on March 31 and Harry Armistead reported a disturbing 360 birds with 10 active nests at Barren and Hooper Islands on May 24. A **Greater White-fronted Goose** was reported in Gaithersburg on March 1 (Matthew O'Donnell) and at Triadelphia on March 15 (Saunders). The last large flocks of **Snow Geese** remaining before heading north were the 15,000+, including 150 blue phase, at Sudlersville on March 5 (Grubers), 4500+ at Kennedyville the same day (Reese), and 500 at Blackwater on April 5 (Jett). Inland reports included 1 blue and 1 white at Woodmark Lake, Howard County on March 16 (Zeichner), and 1 blue and 1 white on March 24-25 at UMCF (Chestem, McClures). The Armisteads estimated 1700 whites and 12 blues on March 29 at Blackwater down to 14 whites and 8 blues there on April 18. Mark Hoffman discovered 210 **Brant** at Ocean City on March 12, and 80 were still there on May 9. The Grubers estimated 10,000 **Canada Geese** flying north over Chestertown on March 2, and Jim Paulus reported 280 inland at Town Hill on March 3. Jim Stasz noted 4 of the rare, small race at Huntleys Pond, Davidsonville on March 8 and another at Sandy Hook on March 16. A Canada Goose with 7 young was at Hughes Hollow on April 26 (Donna Kuroda+).

Exotic Waterfowl. A **Black Swan** was reported at Deal Island WMA from March 19 through April 8 (many observers). An **Egyptian Goose** was at Loch Raven on April 9 (Stasz, Iliff) and a **Common Shelduck** was there on April 10 (Stasz). A male **Falcated Teal**, probably the same bird seen in Montgomery County last spring, was reported off Roxbury Road in Howard County during March 20-24 (Wallace).

Puddle Ducks. The high report for **Wood Ducks** was 70 at Wagram Creek, Worcester County on March 22 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), and Wallace recorded 19 at Big Branch on March 18. Teresa Simons discovered 36 at Pinto on March 23 and an adult with 8 young at North Branch on April 24. The high counts for **Green-winged Teal** were 175 at Blackwater on March 29 (H. Armistead+), 21 at Deep Creek Lake on March 26 (Skipper), 100 at Assateague on April 3 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 30 at Loch Raven on April 11 (Simon), and 50 at Deal Island WMA on April 25 (Czaplak). The only notable reports for **American Black Ducks** were 150 at Assateague on March 15 (Hoffman), 130 at Loch Raven on March 28 (Simon), and a hen with 10 chicks at Deal Island WMA on April 25 (Czaplak). Early nesting **Mallards** included separate groups of 14 and 10 downy young at Lake Elkhorn on April 7 (Southworths) and 14 downy young at Chesapeake Beach on April 9 (Stasz). The high **Northern Pintail** report was 152 at Remington on March 15 (Grubers). Czaplak noted 2 **Blue-winged Teal** at Blackwater on March 14, Hoffman reported 20 at Assateague on April 17, and Stasz found a solo male at North Beach on May 14. **Northern Shovelers** were 70 at Pocomoke City on March 13 (Hoffman), 153 at Remington on March 15 (Grubers), 55 at Blackwater on March 29 (H. Armistead+), a pair at Big Pool on April 14 (Iliff), and an adult male on May 2 at Hurlock (Wilson+). Forty **Gadwalls** were at Assateague on April 5 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien). Simon discovered a drake **Eurasian Wigeon** at Loch Raven from April 4-10. Reports for the **American Wigeon** included 133 at Loch Raven on March 4 (Simon), 131 at Remington on March 15 (Grubers), 29 at North Branch on March 23 (Twigg), 79 at Deep Creek Lake on March 26 (Skipper), and 20 at Laytonsville on March 29 (Hilton).

Aythya Ducks. Reports of lingering **Canvasbacks** were scarce this spring with 300 the high for the season at West Ocean City on April 4, down to 3 females on April 12 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien). Inland Canvasbacks included 20 at Rocky Gap and 4 at Cumberland on March 22 (Simons), and a single bird at Lake Kittamaqundi on April 18 (Chestem). Mumford noted a **Redhead** near Bay Ridge on March 22, Skipper found 5 at Deep Creek Lake on April 2 for the high of the season, and Wallace discovered a pair in western Howard County on April 13. The scarcity of Redheads this season noticeably contrasts with the outstanding count of over 1000 **Ring-necked Ducks** at Little Seneca Lake in late March (M. O'Brien). Other Ring-necks were 193 at Big Branch on March 3 (Solem), 110 at Piney Run on March 7 (Blom), 80 at Pocomoke City on March 13 (Hoffman), 60 at Rocky Gap on March 21 (Simons), 521 at Deep Creek Lake on April 2 (Skipper), 1 male at Schooley Mill on May 7 (Magnusson), a female at Berlin on May 9 (Hoffman), and 2 males seen upstream from Great Falls on May 10 (Hilton). **Greater Scaup** reports included 1 at Rocky Gap on March 7 (Simons), a drake at Wilde Lake on March 20 (Ott, Zeichner, David Holmes), a female at Triadelphia on March 22 (Farrell, Solem), 8 at Seneca on March 27, 1 in DC on March 28 and 6 at Blockhouse Point on April 5 (Czaplak), and 11 in Garrett County at the Oakland sewage ponds on April 15 (Iliff). Czaplak found 940 **Lesser Scaup** at Cambridge on March 14, the Grubers counted 400 Lesser Scaup at Eastern Neck on March 21, 68 were at North Branch, 20 at Rocky Gap and 4 at Cumberland on March 22 (Simons), 120 were in the Ocean City area on March 22 (M. O'Brien, Hoffman), 89 at Little Meadows Lake on March 31 (Skipper), and 1 in DC on May 31 (Janni, Czaplak).

Other Diving Ducks. Reese found single **Common Eiders** at Ocean City on April 24-26. Harry Armistead discovered a subadult male **Harlequin Duck** at Elliott Island on May 9. **Oldsquaws** at PRNAS numbered 430 on March 4 (Rambo, Lister). Many Oldsquaws were reported inland with several at Triadelphia from March 21 (Magnusson) through April 12 (Farrell, Solem+) including a high of 25 on March 22 (Gerald Elgert), 18 in Allegany County on March 22 (Simons), 11 at Little Meadows Lake on March 31 (Skipper), 15 at Violettes Lock on March 31 (Bonham), the season high of 4000 on the Choptank between Cambridge and Tilghman Island on April 8 (Reese, Don Merrit), 3 at Piney Dam, Garrett County on April 14 (Iliff), a male at North Branch on May 10-11 (Stasz), and late single birds at Sandy Point on June 1 (Janni) and North Point on June 2 (Wheeler). At Ocean City on April 26 were 37 **Black Scoters** (Reese). **Surf Scoters** were also evident with 40 at Cobb Island on March 15 (Jett), a male at Havre de Grace on March 28 and 300+ at North Beach on March 29 (Stasz), 1 inland at Rocky Gap on April 4-20 (Twigg), 60 at Assateague on April 5 (M. O'Brien, Hoffman), the high of 2850 on the Choptank near Cambridge on April 8 (Reese, Don Merrit), and an immature male at Deep Creek Lake on April 14 (Iliff). Czaplak spotted a late Surf Scoter at Ocean City on May 22. **White-winged Scoters** were not to be left out with 650+ at North Beach on March 29 (Stasz) and 600 at Poplar Island on April 8 (Reese). A pair of inland White-winged Scoters was at Triadelphia on March 31 (Chestem, Zeichner). There were 213 **Common Goldeneyes** at PRNAS on March 4 (Rambo, Lister). Concentrations of **Buffleheads** were 600 at Bellevue on April 11 (Paul Spitzer, H. Armistead) and 136 in DC the same day (Czaplak), 54 at Loch Raven on April 20-22 (Simon), 30 at Rocky Gap and 5 at North Branch on April 21 (Simons), 1 still at Loch Raven on May 18 (Simon), and a female from May 22 to the end of the month near Frederick (Miller). Fifty-one **Hooded Mergansers** were at Deep Creek Lake on March 26 (Skipper), 22 at Lilypons on March 27 (Krueger); lingering birds were a female at Deep Creek Airport on May 3 (Stasz) and a female near Jefferson on May 17 (Miller). Czaplak found a Hooded Merganser hen with 8 chicks at Lilypons on May 15, and Mary Anne Todd discovered an adult bird with 5 ducklings at Hughes Hollow on May 27. Steve Simon had a nice sighting of 94 **Common Mergansers** at Loch Raven on March 2; late birds were 1 at Trappe on April 12 (Reese), 5 at Loch Raven on April 13 (Simon), 4 at Rocky Gap on April 21 (Simons), and 1 in DC on May 29 (Janni). Highs for

Red-breasted Mergansers were 40 at Pinto, 23 at Rocky Gap, and 13 at Cumberland on March 22 (Simons); 200 at Ocean City on April 4 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien); 300 at Eastern Neck on April 13 (Grubers); and 3 immatures at Rocky Gap on May 31 (Stasz, Blom, Simons). Mark Hoffman found 400 **Ruddy Ducks** at the Pocomoke City sewage ponds on April 12.

Diurnal Raptors. **Black Vultures** made an early appearance at Town Hill with 4 on March 5 and a total of 10 from March 5 to April 25 (Paulus). Czaplak counted 45 at a cow carcass at Boyds on April 12. Connie Skipper found 8 early **Turkey Vultures** in Garrett County along Oakland_Sang Run Road on March 3. An early **Osprey** was spotted at Bucktown on March 1 (Alice & Edgar Jones). Other Ospreys of note were 1 at Triadelphia on March 16 (Gerald Elgert), 1 at Cumberland on April 1 (Twigg), and 6 in DC with two nests on May 2 (Czaplak). Jane Farrell spied a **Bald Eagle** at Triadelphia on March 22, Teresa Simons noted another at Green Ridge on March 29, and Stauffer Miller notched 1 at Knoxville on April 5. A late migrant **Northern Harrier** was near Dawsonville on May 10 (Hilton), and a possible breeding bird was at Tuckahoe SP on May 29 (Rittenhouse). Jim Stasz identified an adult female **Sharp-shinned Hawk** at Cooksville on May 25 and recorded 10 **Cooper's Hawks** at Cove Point on April 11. Czaplak spotted 2 Cooper's and 110 **Broad-winged Hawks** migrating at Seneca on April 17, and Farrell counted 38 Broad-wings at Centennial the same day. A **Northern Goshawk** was spotted at North Branch on March 23 (Twigg). The last reports for **Rough-legged Hawks** were 1 at E.A. Vaughn WMA, Worcester County on March 9 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), a dark phase at Irish Grove on April 4 (Stasz), and 2 birds at Elliott Island the same day (Julie Kelly). Late **Golden Eagles** were 2 immatures at Remington on March 15 (Grubers), 1 at Blackwater on March 31 (Krueger), an adult at Eastern Neck on April 13 (Grubers), and 1 at Centennial on April 17 (Farrell). **Merlin** reports included single birds at Ocean Pines on March 8 (Janni), at Lilypons on April 6 (Krueger), over Town Hill on April 14 (Illif, Stasz), and at Chesapeake Beach on May 13 (Stasz). Sightings of **Peregrine Falcons** included 2 adults at Ocean City through March 14 with 1 through April 12 (Hoffman), a male "*tundrius*" at Jug Bay on March 12 (Stasz, Blom), 1 in DC on March 13 (Frank Daspit), 2 inland on the

Table 2. Hawk Migration at Town Hill, Allegany County, Spring 1992 compiled by Jim Paulus

Species	First	Last	Total	Best Days
Osprey	3/25	5/3	104	19 on 4/22, 16 on 4/11
Bald Eagle	3/12	4/17	10	3 on 3/25
Northern Harrier	3/8	4/18	41	10 on 4/8 and 4/16
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3/5	5/2	116	25 on 4/18, 18 on 4/16
Cooper's Hawk	3/3	5/1	9	2 on 3/25 and 4/10
Red-shouldered Hawk	3/1	4/4	55	17 on 3/9, 10 on 3/25
Broad-winged Hawk	4/12	5/1	1005	637 on 4/17, 243 on 4/16
Red-tailed Hawk	3/1	5/2	255	33 on 4/11, 19 on 3/25
Golden Eagle	3/1	4/17	21	4 on 3/8
American Kestrel	3/3	4/24	37	12 on 3/25
Merlin	4/13	4/23	3	also one on 4/16
Unidentified			114	
Total (49 days, 224.5 hrs)	3/1	5/3	1770	673 on 4/17, 308 on 4/16, 107 on 4/18

Table 3. Hawk Migration at Fort Smallwood Park, Spring 1992
compiled by Paul and Cecily Fritz

Species	First	Last	Total	Best Days
Black Vulture	3/29	4/24	15	8 on 3/29, 3 on 4/7 and 4/24
Turkey Vulture	3/17	5/10	494	112 on 3/29, 56 on 4/17
Osprey	3/17	5/10	195	47 on 4/11 and 4/17, 23 on 4/25
Bald Eagle	3/22	4/25	10	3 on 3/29 and 4/2
Northern Harrier	3/17	5/10	85	31 on 4/17, 27 on 4/11
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3/17	5/10	2100	518 on 4/17, 431 on 4/11
Cooper's Hawk	3/17	5/10	246	57 on 4/17, 50 on 4/24
Red-shouldered Hawk	3/17	4/25	71	13 on 3/29, 4/11 and 4/12
Broad-winged Hawk	4/11	5/10	373	262 on 4/17, 60 on 5/2
Red-tailed Hawk	3/29	5/ 2	42	14 on 4/17, 9 on 3/29
American Kestrel	3/17	5/10	273	77 on 4/11, 67 on 4/17, 56 on 4/12
Merlin	4/ 1	5/10	15	6 on 4/17, 4 on 4/25
Peregrine Falcon	4/17		1	
Unidentified			36	
Total(19 days,104.5 hrs)	3/17	5/10	3956	1071 on 4/17, 646 on 4/11, 446 on 5/2

Maryland side of a cliff near Harpers Ferry on March 15 (David Gersten), an adult near Taylors Island the same day (Ed Bruce), another at Ellicott City on April 9 (Ott), and 1 at Frederick on May 23 (Jett).

Gallinaceous Birds. An exotic **Chukar**, no doubt escaped, was reported at Hughes Hollow on March 29 (John Wilson). Eastern Shore sightings of **Ring-necked Pheasants** were 2 at Remington on March 21 (Jared and Zach Parks), 1 banded bird at Nanticoke on April 3 (Stasz), 1 at Greensboro on April 15 (Bob Fletcher), 1 at Bellevue on April 17 and 2 heard calling on May 23 (H. Armistead+), 1 heard calling at Smoky Road, Calvert County on April 24 and seen on May 12 (Stasz), and 1 at Seward on May 2 (Wilson). Eighteen 18 **Wild Turkeys** were at Federalsburg on March 15 (Glime). Other reports included 8 in Queen Anne on March 16 (Grubers), 1 heard gobbling in Pocomoke State Forest on March 22 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 1 in Bethesda on March 28 and May 21 (Homan), several heard at Fleming Mill on April 5 (Stasz), 1 at Prettyboy Reservoir on April 7 (Stephen Buhl) and April 20 (Charles Doyle, Hobart Hughes), at least 6 calling at Smoky Road, Calvert County on April 24 (Stasz), and 1 heard near Hibley's Mill, Howard County on May 2 (Stasz).

Rails, Cranes. The first calling **Black Rails** of the season were 2 heard early near Rumbly Point on April 3 (Stasz, Effinger). Another was at Assateague on April 16 (Hoffman), and another was calling at Easton sewage plant on April 25 (Stasz, Iliff). Jim Stasz heard a **Clapper Rail** calling at Chesapeake Beach on April 11, and Harry Armistead discovered a Clapper Rail nest with 8 eggs on May 24 at Barren Island. A **King Rail** was calling at Cove Point on March 21 (Stasz), another was at Truitts Landing on April 18 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), and one more was near Franklin Manor, Anne Arundel County on May 9 (Iliff). Early reports for **Virginia Rails** were 8 at Truitts Landing on March 9 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 1 at Hughes Hollow on April 17 (Czaplak), and 1 at the Wildfowl Trust near Grasonville on April 18 (Nistico). The high count was the 126 totaled by Harry Armistead in southern Dorchester County on May 9. **Soras** noted included 1 at Assateague

on April 17 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 2 at Pinto on April 25 (Simons), 1 at Truitts Landing on May 2nd and 4th (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 1 at Finzel Swamp on May 9 (Walbeck+), 1 at Lilypons on April 29 (Krueger) and May 11 (Jett), and 4 in southern Dorchester County on May 9 (H. Armistead). Phil Norman reported a Sora in Howard County at the Plumtree Branch pathway on May 16, and 1 was at Hughes Hollow on May 17 (Don Simonson). Krueger reported a **Common Moorhen** at Lilypons on April 29. Steve Simon counted 700 **American Coots** at Loch Raven on March 4 and 13, Czaplak found 50 Coots at Little Seneca Lake on March 7, Hoffman discovered 90 at the Pocomoke City sewage ponds on March 13, and Skipper noted 60 at Deep Creek Lake on March 26. Once again a **Sandhill Crane**, seen by many birders, was found near the Choptank in Talbot County on March 8 (Hilton, Janni) and last reported there on April 15 (Reese); and a Sandhill was heard calling at night at Eastern Neck on May 28 (M. O'Brien).

Plovers, Oystercatchers, Stilts, Avocets. Mark Hoffman reported the high for **Black-bellied Plovers** with 160 at Ocean City on March 12. George and Harry Armistead found 9 at Blackwater on April 18 and 1 at Laytonsville on May 27 (Dwight Mueller). The first **Semipalmated Plovers** of the season were single birds at Assateague on April 23 (Hoffman) and North Branch on April 24 (Simons). The high count was 312 at Hart-Miller on May 17 (Ricciardi, Stasz, Dixon). Mark Hoffman found 7 of the endangered **Piping Plovers** at Assateague on March 15. High counts of **Killdeer** were 35 at Liberty Reservoir on March 14 (Ringler), 40 at Allens Fresh on March 25 (Stasz, Ringler), and 71 at Fulton on March 21 (Farrell). Jan Reese counted 45 five miles southeast of Trappe on March 29, Stasz discovered 89 along Sudley Road, Anne Arundel County on April 1, and Betty Pitney reported 2 young birds leaving a nest in Parsonsburg on April 12. There were no March reports for **American Oystercatchers**, but Jim Stasz recorded 2 at Wenona on April 5. Frequent reports of spring **Black-necked Stilts** continue with 1 at Chesapeake Beach on April 17-19 (Iliff, Stasz+), two pairs at Deal Island WMA on April 25 (Czaplak), 3 near Newark on May 1 (Hoffman), 1 at Hurlock sewage ponds on May 2 (Wilson+), 1 at Allens Fresh on May 3 (Jett), 1 at North Beach on May 3 (Jett), 1 at Blackwater on May 17 (Krueger), and 2 at Hart-Miller on May 17-18 (Ricciardi, Stasz, Dixon). It was a good spring for **American Avocets** at Hart-Miller with 9 from May 17 through the end of the month and one pair copulating (Dixon, Ricciardi, Stasz+). Mary Gustafson reported an avocet at Blackwater on April 4.

Sandpipers. Early **Greater Yellowlegs** were at Deal Island WMA on March 12 (Charles Williams). A single bird was at Eastern Neck (Grubers) and 32 at Cambridge on March 14 (Czaplak), and 3 were at Assateague on March 15 (Hoffman). Other reports included 40 at Blackwater on March 29 (H. Armistead+), 35 at Assateague on April 12 (Hoffman), 50 at Deal Island WMA on April 25 (Czaplak), 22 at Chesapeake Beach on May 6 (Stasz), and a single bird at Laytonsville on May 30 (Czaplak). Ten **Lesser Yellowlegs** were at Assateague on March 15, and 70 were there on May 4 (Hoffman). Stasz found 33 Lessers at Chesapeake Beach on May 13 and an early **Solitary Sandpiper** there on April 11. Warfield noted 1 at Lilypons on April 10 and Simon located 17 Solitaries at Loch Raven on May 10. Stasz found a late migrant Solitary at Chesapeake Beach on June 8. **Willet** reports included 1 at Deal Island WMA on April 11 (Jett), 2 near Public Landing on April 12 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 1 at Chesapeake Beach on April 17 (Iliff, Stasz), 2 at Cove Point on May 9 (Stasz, Boyd), 1 at Jug Bay on May 11 (Stasz), and a bird of the western race (the only one of the season) at North Beach on May 21-24 (Stasz, Iliff). Hoffman tallied 95 Willets along coastal Worcester County on April 24 and a nest with 4 eggs in West Ocean City on May 9. The first **Spotted Sandpiper** of the season was in DC on March 31 near Fletcher's Boathouse (Homan), another was seen from a boat on the Choptank near Tilghman Island on April 8 (Reese, Don Merrit), and Twigg reported 1 inland at Rocky Gap and 2 at Little Meadows Lake on April 10. Reese turned

up an **Upland Sandpiper** in Easton on April 19, Czaplak checked off a bird at Shady Side on April 20, and Miller notched an Upland near Frederick on April 27. **Whimbrel** reports were numerous with 3 birds at Assateague on April 17 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 3 on the April 25 pelagic trip out of Ocean City (Scarpulla+), 50 at Assateague on May 4 (Hoffman), and about 40 seen flying over Hashawha Environmental Center, Carroll County on May 25 (Ringler). The only **Marbled Godwit** of the season was at Hart-Miller on May 23 (Janni, Hoffman). The migration of **Ruddy Turnstones** was on schedule with the first bird at North Beach on May 9 and 4 there on May 14 (Stasz), 11 at Hart-Miller on May 17 (Dixon, Ricciardi, Stasz), 28 at Barren and Hooper Islands on May 24 (H. Armistead), 4 at the Wye River Yacht Club on May 29 (Stasz), 1 at North Branch on May 31-June 1 (Twigg+), and 2 at North Point. (Wheeler).

Wintering **Red Knots** were discovered at Ocean City with 4 there on March 12 and 2 on April 4 (Hoffman). Migrants were 1 at Chesapeake Beach on May 9 (Stasz, Boyd), 2 at Hart-Miller on May 17 (Dixon, Ricciardi, Stasz), and another at North Beach on May 19 (Stasz). Krueger estimated 1200 **Sanderlings** at Assateague on April 18 and there were about 1650 **Semipalmated Sandpipers** at Hart-Miller on May 17 (Dixon, Ricciardi, Stasz). The first reported Semipalm was a single bird at Chesapeake Beach on April 28, and 77 were there on May 14 (Stasz). Miller noted 15 Semipalms at Lilypons on May 27, and Czaplak counted 50 in DC on May 31. The only **Western Sandpiper** was inland at North Branch on May 31 (Simons, Paulus, Twigg), and Mark Hoffman notched 4 very early **Least Sandpipers** at Assateague on March 15. High counts for the Least included 100 at Assateague on April 23 (Hoffman), 105 at Chesapeake Beach on May 2 (Stasz), 36 at North Branch on May 16 (Simons), and 538 at Hart-Miller on May 17 (Dixon, Ricciardi, Stasz). Reports for the **White-rumped Sandpiper** were 1 at Chesapeake Beach on May 3 and 3 there on May 10 (Stasz), 1 at Blackwater on May 11 (Jett), and 40+ at Hart-Miller on June 4 (Stasz, Iliff). Steve Simon spotted a very early **Pectoral Sandpiper** at Loch Raven on March 1, the high count was 25 at Easton on April 17 (G. Armistead), 3 were at Chesapeake Beach on May 10th (Stasz), and Warfield found an even later bird at Lilypons on May 20th. Jan Reese and Don Merrit noted 6 **Purple Sandpipers** at Poplar Island on April 8 and the high count of 62 at Ocean City on April 26. Robert Hilton found 10 Purple Sandpipers remaining in Ocean City on May 21. Hoffman estimated 2000 **Dunlins** in Ocean City on March 12, 260 were counted at Blackwater on March 14 (Czaplak), and 8 were found at Allens Fresh on March 15 (Jett, Stasz). Other Dunlin reports included 1000 at Blackwater on April 5 (Jett), 12 at Easton on April 17 (G. Armistead), 486 at Hart-Miller on May 17 (Dixon, Ricciardi, Stasz), 50 throughout Barren and Hooper Islands on May 24 (H. Armistead) and 3 inland at Lilypons on May 27 (Miller). A **Curlew Sandpiper** made an appearance at Hart-Miller and was seen off and on by several birders from May 17 through May 23 (Dixon, Ricciardi, Stasz+). Steve Simon discovered a **Stilt Sandpiper** at Loch Raven on May 9, another, in breeding plumage, was at Chesapeake Beach, May 9-14 (Iliff, Stasz, Boyd), and others were at Blackwater on May 3 and Cambridge on May 17 (Krueger). The only **Ruff** report for the season was the female Jim Stasz spotted at Jug Bay on April 12.

Short-billed Dowitchers were a little early with 1 at Chesapeake Beach on April 11 (Stasz), 5 at Assateague on April 17 and 60 there on May 4 (Hoffman), and 7 at Lilypons on April 22 (Krueger). The high was 118 at Hart-Miller on May 17 inland; 6 were found at North Branch on May 18 (Simons) and in Frederick County on May 14 (Miller). Harry Armistead and party saw 2 calling **Long-billed Dowitchers** at Blackwater on March 29. There were 57 **Common Snipe** at Jug Bay on March 6 (Chris Swarth), 42 at Sycamore Landing on March 7 (Mike Bowen, Saunders), 45 at Stockton on March 9 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 34 were totaled at Lilypons on March 17 (Warfield), 44 visited UMCF on April 8 (Magnusson), up to 30 were observed at Otter Point Creek Marsh, Harford County on

April 13 (Kirkwood), and 1 was noted at Chesapeake Beach on May 12 (Stasz). A **Wilson's Phalarope** in breeding plumage was at West Ocean City on May 11 (Bonham) and another was at Hart-Miller on May 19 (Jett). Pelagic birders notched 2 **Red-necked Phalaropes** on the April 25 trip out of Ocean City; a single female was discovered at Elliott Island on May 9 by Harry Armistead.

Jaegers, Gulls. The April 25 pelagic trip off Ocean City yielded 3 **Parasitic Jaegers**; the March 1 trip, 2 unidentified **skuas** and a **Little Gull** (Scarpulla+). Hoffman estimated 1000 **Laughing Gulls** at the Worcester County landfill on April 3, Scudder recorded 250 at Concord on April 4, Janni noted 10 in DC on May 10, and Ott spotted 5 adults at Rockburn Branch the same day. A first-winter and an adult winter **Common Black-headed Gull** rewarded hardy pelagic birders out of Ocean City on March 1 (Scarpulla+), 1 adult was seen in Denton on March 15-21 (Steve Sanford, Pete Webb+), 1 adult flew over Sandy Point on March 27 (Stasz), and a first-winter bird was at Assateague on April 5 (M. O'Brien, Hoffman). **Bonaparte's Gulls** included 150 at Ocean City on March 1 (Hoffman), 1500 at Back River on March 15th and 18th (Blom), 14 at Loch Raven on April 13 (Simon), 100 at Eastern Neck on April 14 (Grubers), 270 flying north at Sandy Point on April 20 (Czaplak), 1 immature flying over the Pocomoke River on May 16 (Ringler), 2 immatures at St. Clements and 1 at Cobb Island on May 16 (Stasz), 1 at North Beach on May 18 (Stasz), and 1 immature at Ocean City on May 22 (Czaplak). High estimates for **Ring-billed Gulls** were 2500 at Kennedyville and 5000 between Chestertown and Easton on March 5 (Reese), 10,000 at Fairlee on March 7 (Grubers), 3500 at Trappe on March 22 (Reese), 500 near Lilypons on March 27 and 1950 in DC on March 28 (Czaplak), and 10,000 at Chestertown on March 31 (Grubers). Czaplak noted 200 Ring-bills remaining in DC on May 30. Jim Paulus observed 4 inland **Herring Gulls** at Town Hill on April 10, Iliff noted 1 at Big Pool on April 14, and 1025 were tallied offshore on the April 25 pelagic trip (Scarpulla+). The only **Iceland Gull** reports received were a first-year bird observed on the March 1 pelagic trip (Scarpulla+) and a second-year at West Ocean City on May 7 (Hoffman). Reports of **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** remain numerous and included a first-winter and 2 adult-winter birds tallied on the March 1 pelagic trip (Scarpulla+), an adult at Triadelphia on March 1 (Farrell), a third-year and an adult at the Worcester County landfill on March 11 (Hoffman), 1 at Laytonsville on March 14 (David Spector), 1 seen at Eastern Neck on March 14 and March 21 (Grubers), an adult at Liberty on March 14 and April 4 (Ringler), 2 adults and 1 first-summer bird at Eastern Neck on March 24 (M. O'Brien), an adult in Ocean City on April 18 (Czaplak), 2 in DC on April 20 (Jim Ford), another pelagic sighting on April 25 (Scarpulla+), a first-summer at Seneca on April 29 (Czaplak), a third-summer at Laytonsville on May 9 (M. O'Brien), and a third-year at the central landfill in Worcester County off and on, last seen on May 9 (Hoffman). The only **Glaucous Gull** reported was a first-year bird at Hillsmere Beach on March 23-24 (Iliff, Helen & John Ford). Mark Hoffman and Mike O'Brien observed 100 **Great Black-backed Gulls** at the Worcester County landfill on March 11 and March 21, and Czaplak noted 24 in DC on May 30. Pelagic birders out of Ocean City were treated to 16 **Black-legged Kittiwakes** on March 1 (Scarpulla+).

Terns, Skimmers, Alcids. **Caspian Terns** were 4 in DC on April 5 (Czaplak), 1 at Loch Raven on April 7 (Stasz, Iliff), 1 at Rocky Gap on April 10 (Simons), 1 at Kent Narrows on April 18 (Reese), 13 at Blackwater on April 19 (Czaplak), 8 at Loch Raven on April 20 (Simon), 75 over Sandy Point the same day (Czaplak), 1 at Denton on April 20 (Hewitt), 2 at North Beach on May 27 (Stasz), 1 at Triadelphia on May 30 (Farrell, Solem), another in DC the same day (Czaplak), and 1 at Assateague on May 31 (Hoffman). The first **Royal Terns** of the season were 4 noted at Ocean City on April 4 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien) and 1 at Deal Island WMA on April 5 (Stasz). The high counts were 35 at Popes Creek on April 13 (M. O'Brien), 26 at Eastern Neck on April 14 (Grubers), 21 at Ocean

City on April 18 and 16 flying north at Sandy Point on April 20 (Czaplak). The 2 Royals at Jug Bay on April 20 (M. O'Brien) were somewhat unusual. The first **Common Terns** of the season were 1 flying up the Bay at North Beach on April 1 (Stasz) and 1 at Ocean City on April 12 (Hoffman). On May 30, Mike O'Brien and Ray Kiddy identified 2 **Arctic Terns**, an adult and a first-summer, at Rocky Gap. March **Forster's Terns** were 10 near Public Landing on March 9 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien) and 18 at Blackwater on March 29 (H. Armistead+). Another was at Eastern Neck on April 13 (Grubers) and inland reports were of single birds at Wilde Lake (Chestem, Bockstie) and Rocky Gap (Simons) on April 19, another at North Branch on May 16 (Simons), 3 at Cumberland on April 20 (Twigg, Simons), 1 near Laytonsville on May 9 (Hilton, M. O'Brien), at Deep Creek Lake the same day (Skipper), and 1 at Violettes Lock on May 20 (Simonson). Early **Least Terns** were 1 at Tanyard on April 19 (Engle) and 2 at Ocean City on April 24 (Hoffman). As usual there were a few **Black Tern** reports with 2 tallied on the April 25 pelagic trip out of Ocean City (Scarpulla+), 2 at Blockhouse Point on May 6, 1 at Hains Point on May 9 and 1 at Seneca on May 21 (Czaplak, Marie Plante), and 3 near Frederick on May 27 (Miller). The season for **Black Skimmers** started with 30 at Ocean City on April 12 (Hoffman); 12 were at Choptank on April 16 (D. Ford), and 350 at Ocean City on April 25 (Reese). To the delight of the birders on the March 1 pelagic trip out of Ocean City, 139 **Dovekies** were totaled as well as an **Atlantic Puffin** and 11 **Razorbills**. Mark Hoffman and Mike O'Brien saw 4 Razorbills from a fishing boat out of Ocean City on April 4 for the latest State report.

Doves, Parrots, Cuckoos, Owls. George Jett had a **Ringed Turtle-Dove** at his feeder in Waldorf on April 10, and Jan Reese estimated 350 **Rock Doves** at the Bay Bridge on April 18. A **Monk Parakeet**, apparently a long-term survivor, was reported at a feeder in Edgewater on March 5 (Donna Doyle). Nuttle heard a **Black-billed Cuckoo** at Denton on May 1. The Grubers banded one at Eastern Neck on May 19, and another was near Snow Hill on May 22 (M. O'Brien). Czaplak reported a **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** at Pocomoke SF on April 24. Bob Ringler reported 2 large, gray young **Eastern Screech-Owls** and an adult red nearby on May 27 at Bloom. The last **Short-eared Owls** reported were 1 at North Branch on March 8 (Simons), 1 near George Island Landing on March 13 (Hoffman), 3 at Elliott Island on April 4 (Julie Kelly), and 2, very tardy, at Deal Island WMA on May 2 (Brodericks). The only reported **Northern Saw-whet Owls** were one that wintered near Cunningham Falls State Park, last seen on March 11 (Peter Bugler), and 1 at Hughes Hollow through March 15 (many observers). A **Barn Owl** turned up on April 16, on the Mall in DC (Maurice Lefrank).

Caprimulgids, Swifts. Extremely early **Common Nighthawks** were reported with 5 at Salisbury on March 7 (Carol Broderick) and 1 in downtown Cumberland on March 15 (Twigg). Interesting reports for **Chuck-will's-widows** were 3 at Ocean City and Assateague on April 12 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 1 heard near Bowie on April 16 (Karen Loehman), 2 five miles southeast of Trappe on April 17 (Reese), 3 at Eastern Neck on April 21 (Grubers), 1 calling near Susquehanna SP on April 22 for the first known Harford County record (Kirkwood), and the bird Paul Nistico reported in Accokeek from May 9 until May 28 when it was found dead on the road. Teresa Simons reported the first **Whip-poor-will** at Rocky Gap on April 9 and a **Chimney Swift** at Cumberland on April 12. Jim Wilkinson found an even earlier swift at Lake Elkhorn on April 8, Hoffman spotted 2 at Stockton on April 12, and the Grubers estimated 100 at Chestertown on April 16.

Hummingbirds, Woodpeckers. Early **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** were single birds at Federalsburg on April 16 (Glime) and near Bryans Road, Charles County on April 17 (Nistico). Howard Elitzak noted 5 **Red-headed Woodpeckers** at Black Hill Park on March 30 and Mike O'Brien tallied 15 in Charles County on April 13. Five **Yel-**

low-bellied Sapsuckers were counted on a field trip to Sycamore Landing on March 7 (Saunders, Mike Bowen). Bonnie Ott counted 16 **Northern Flickers** at Ellicott City on April 9 and Dave Czaplak tallied 13 migrating flickers at DC on April 11.

Flycatchers. There were only a few sightings of the much sought after **Olive-sided Flycatcher** with single birds in northwest Charles County on May 9 (Nistico), near Blockhouse Point on May 14-15 (Bonham+), at Hughes Hollow on May 16 (Gersten+), at Hart-Miller on May 17 (Dixon, Ricciardi, Stasz), and Riley's Lock on May 28 (Linda Freeland). Short found an early **Eastern Wood-Pewee** on April 17 at Greensboro. Single **Yellow-bellied Flycatchers** were at Hughes Hollow on May 16 (Paul DuMont) and May 21 (Homan), and at Swallow Falls SP on May 28 (Bonham). Czaplak heard an early **Alder Flycatcher** singing at Lilypons on May 11 and another was discovered at Schooley Mill on May 29-31 (Ott, Magnusson+). **Willow Flycatchers** identified included single birds in Cheverly on May 1 (Reese), at the Hanover Watershed on May 9 (Ringler), in southern Howard County the same day (Farrell, Solem), and at Waldorf on May 26 (Jett). **Least Flycatcher** reports included 1 at North Branch on April 26 (Simons), 1 at Hibley's Mill, Howard County on May 2 (Stasz), 2 in DC (Janni) and 1 at Whitehall Beach (Walbeck) the same day, and 1 singing at Morgan Run on May 3 (Ringler+). Warfield noted an early **Eastern Phoebe** at Germantown on March 1, Simons found 1 at Pinto on March 2, and Ken Bauer saw 1 in Garrett County near Cranesville on March 9. The first reports for the **Great Crested Flycatcher** were single birds at Pocomoke State Forest on April 19 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien) and Parsonsburg on April 23 (Pitney). Single **Eastern Kingbirds** were found at Boyds (Czaplak), near Pocomoke City (Hoffman) and in Ellicott City (Ott) on April 12, and at Denton (Short) and Phoenix (Walbeck, Burkhardt) on April 17. George Jett reported a **Western Kingbird** at Drum Point on May 20.

Swallows. The first **Purple Martins** of the season were 1 at Rocky Gap on March 12 (Twigg), and 3 at Tanyard on March 20 (Engle). Homan discovered a very early **Tree Swallow** at Hughes Hollow on February 28, and 10 were there on March 2 (Chuck Parker), 1 at Stockton on March 8 (Jett), 1 at Ball Road Pond, Frederick County on March 10 (Miller), 35 at Church Hill on March 11 (Grubers), 85 at Blackwater on March 14 (Czaplak), and 50 at Eastern Neck on March 18 (Grubers). Jim Wilkinson reported 3 **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** at Wilson on March 25, and very early **Bank Swallows** were noted with 2 at Lake Kittamaqundi on April 3 (Zeichner), and single birds at Joppatowne on April 8 (M. O'Brien) and Cumberland on April 9 (Twigg). Notable April accounts for **Cliff Swallows** were as follows: 1 at Cumberland on the 9th (Twigg), 3 at Sykesville on the 12th (Ringler), 1 at Bellevue on the 19th (Armisteads), 15 at Hains Point on the 26th (Czaplak), 2 at Deal Island WMA on the 26th (Krueger, Jett), and 30 near Frederick on the 27th (Miller). Sue Probst and Connie Bockstie noted a **Barn Swallow** at Centennial on March 23, and Dave Czaplak found 1 at Lilypons on March 27.

Crows, Ravens, Nuthatches. Early **Fish Crow** activity was evident with 2 seen and heard at Town Hill on March 9 (Paulus), 150 noted at the Worcester County landfill on April 3 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), and 1 breaking off twigs at West Friendship on April 18 (Ringler). Stauffer Miller spotted 3 **Common Ravens** at Salamander Rock, Frederick County on May 13. Dave Walbeck heard a **Red-breasted Nuthatch** at New Germany SP on May 9.

Wrens, Kinglets. A **House Wren** near Public Landing on March 13 (Hoffman) may have wintered there; an early arrival was near Marriottsville on April 11 (Solem, McClures). Mike O'Brien found a late departing **Winter Wren** at Rockville on May 5 and heard 1 singing at Swallow Falls SP on May 30. The only reported **Sedge Wrens** were single birds at Irish Grove on April 3-4 (Stasz), Assateague on April 16-17 and May 9 (Hoffman,

M. O'Brien), and heard singing in the Elliott Island area on May 9 (H. Armistead) and at Irish Grove on May 9 (Jett). Jim Stasz reported that a **Marsh Wren** overwintered at Cove Point, 5 were at Truitts Landing on March 9 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), and 1 at Eastern Neck on April 14 (Grubers). A Marsh Wren was near New Germany SP on May 9 (Walbeck+), and Marshall Iliff counted 25 Marsh Wrens at Deep Creek Airport on May 9. Czaplak reported a migrating Marsh Wren at Rock Creek Park on May 7, and 2 were present at the Plum Tree Branch pathway, Howard County on May 17 (Magnusson, Solem). The Grubers counted 60 **Golden-crowned Kinglets** at Eastern Neck on March 31; the last one banded there was on April 21. Paul Nistico noted his last Golden-crowned in Queen Anne's County on April 18, and a single bird was near Swansfield, Howard County on May 3 (Chestem). The Grubers tallied 80 **Ruby-crowned Kinglets** at Eastern Neck on April 20, and Saunders counted 23 at Maydale Nature Center in Colesville on April 19.

Thrushes. Krueger heard a **Veery** at Pennyfield on April 10 and another was at Sandy Point on April 19 (William Harvey). The Grubers banded 3 Veeries at Eastern Neck on May 23, the last ones banded there and the high for the season. Reese reported one at Adkins Arboretum, Caroline County on May 24, and Czaplak found a late Veery at Hains Point on May 31. **Gray-cheeked Thrush** reports were a Bicknell's identified by call in DC on May 2 and a *minimus* at Blockhouse Point on May 17 (Czaplak), 2 Bicknell's at Hart-Miller on May 17 (Dixon, Ricciardi, Stasz), the only Gray-cheeked banded for the season at Eastern Neck on May 18, a Bicknell's identified by call, song, and plumage at Sugarloaf Mountain, May 18-20 (Czaplak), and a Bicknell's at Blockhouse Point on May 26 (Krueger). An early **Swainson's Thrush** was at Pennyfield on April 23 (Krueger), and the high for Swainson's was 15 at Noland's Ferry on May 17 (Czaplak). Dave Czaplak counted 7 **Hermit Thrushes** at Milburn Landing on April 19 and Teresa Simons heard 1 singing at Green Ridge on May 20. Reports for early **Wood Thrushes** were rather low again with 1 at Smithville on April 17 (Short), at Blades Road, Worcester County on April 18 (Hoffman), and 2 at Rockburn Branch the same day (Ott).

Mimids, Pipits. Wintering or early migrant **Gray Catbirds** were 1 near Public Landing on March 13 (Hoffman), 1 seen at Wittman on March 25 (Reese), 1 at Schooley Mill on April 4 (Farrell, Solem), 3 at Assateague on April 5 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), and 1 at Denton on April 16 (Nuttle). Harry Armistead found a **Northern Mockingbird** on May 24 at an interesting location, Barren Island. **Brown Thrashers** of note included single birds near Public Landing on March 9, at South Point on March 11, and at Griffin Road Ponds, Worcester County on March 15 (Hoffman); the first banded at Eastern Neck was on March 25. High counts of **American Pipits** were 80+ near Prince Frederick on March 7 (Stasz), 200 between Detour and Keysville in Carroll County on March 15 (Ringler), and 80 at Boyds on March 22 (Czaplak); late Pipits of note were 1 at North Beach on May 14 and 3 at Chesapeake Beach the same day (Stasz).

Waxwings, Shrikes, Vireos. The largest tallies for **Cedar Waxwings** were about 300 in DC on March 19 (Patricia Price) and 300 at Chestertown on April 15 (Grubers). A **Loggerhead Shrike** was seen at Boyds on March 22 (Czaplak). Early **White-eyed Vireos** were single birds at Hughes Hollow on April 7 (David Gersten), at Nassawango Creek on April 12 (Pitney), and Pocomoke State Forest the same day (Hoffman). An early **Solitary Vireo** was at Green Ridge on April 8 (Simons). Other Solitary reports of note: 1 on April 12 at Waldorf (Jett), 1 at Centennial the same day (Ott, Zeichner), 1 on April 13 at Salisbury (Brodericks), 4 on May 3 in DC (Czaplak), 4 on May 11 at Wilde Lake (Chestem), 1 on May 13 at Eastern Neck (Grubers), and 1 on May 14 near Public Landing (Hoffman). An early **Yellow-throated Vireo** was located at Pocomoke State Forest on April 12 by Mark Hoffman. **Warbling Vireos** were possible rare breeders on the central Eastern Shore, 1 singing at Wright's Mill, Talbot County, an unusual location on May 29 (Stasz);

and 1 at Denton on May 31 (Nuttle). Early **Red-eyed Vireos** were 3 on April 18 at Pocomoke State Forest (Hoffman), single birds on April 19 in DC (Janni), at Maydale Nature Center in Colesville (Saunders), at Easton (Reese), and in Denton on April 21 (Roberta Fletcher). Czaplak counted 30 Red-eyes at Pocomoke State Forest on April 24.

Vermivora Warblers, Parula. Dave Czaplak found an early **Blue-winged Warbler** in DC on April 16, and Bockstie notched another at Centennial on April 17. Simons checked off an early **Golden-winged Warbler** at Green Ridge on April 22, and other reports included a female at Centennial on April 27 (Chestem), an immature near Whaleysville on May 1 (Hoffman), 1 at Rock Creek Park on May 1-5 (Janni+), a male at Schooley Mill on May 5-6 (Magnusson, Solem+), a female near Potomac on May 2 (Wilkinson), 1 heard singing near Pocomoke City on May 3 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 1 at Blockhouse Point on May 4 (Krueger), 1 in Rockville on May 5 (M. O'Brien), 2 at Point of Rocks on May 5 (Krueger), 1 at Waldorf on May 9 (Jett), and 1 at Hall Creek, Anne Arundel County on May 11 (Stasz). Nancy Magnusson found the rare **Brewster's Warbler** hybrid at Schooley Mill on May 4, and Mary Twigg notched the rarer **Lawrence's Warbler** hybrid on the C&O Canal, Allegany County on April 23. Czaplak reported the high for **Tennessee Warblers** with 6 at Noland's Ferry on May 17. There were more reports than usual for the **Orange-crowned Warbler**, with 1 at Williams Wharf Road, Calvert County on March 7 (Stasz), 1 still wintering at Stockton through April 3, a different bird on March 13 near George Island Landing (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 1 at Nanticoke on April 5 (Stasz), 1 at Rockburn Branch on April 12 (Ott), and 1 at Myrtle Grove WMA, Charles County on May 9 (Nistico). Ringler reported 2 **Nashville Warblers** at Piney Run on April 25, another was at Rockburn Branch the same day (Wilkinson), 1 was noted at Pennyfield on April 23 (Krueger), and Stasz counted 6 at Deep Creek Airport on May 3. The first **Northern Parulas**, all on April 12, were at least 1 at Pocomoke State Forest (Hoffman), 1 bird at Knoxville along the C&O Canal (Miller), and 13 between Pennyfield and Violettes Lock (Krueger).

Dendroica Warblers. David Gersten reported an early **Yellow Warbler** at Hughes Hollow on April 7, Don Merrit checked one off in Cambridge on April 10, the Grubers found 1 in Chestertown on April 17, and 1 was at Blair's Valley, Washington County on April 18 (Jett). Single **Chestnut-sided Warblers** were at Town Hill on April 24 (Simons), in DC on April 25 (Janni), and at Stockton on April 26 (Krueger). Czaplak counted 4 **Magnolia Warblers** in DC on May 2 and Janni discovered a late Magnolia there on June 3. Nistico found his first **Cape May Warbler** of the season in Charles County on April 24, and Czaplak notched 2 at Noland's Ferry on May 1. Connie Skipper found an early **Black-throated Blue Warbler** near her house in Garrett County on April 22, and Nancy Magnusson located another at Schooley Mill on April 24. Others of note were 2 in DC on April 25 (Janni), 1 in DC on May 28 (Janni), and 1 female at Rockburn Branch the same day (Kubitsky). A tardy **Yellow-rumped Warbler** was noted at the Middle Patuxent River near Eden Brook Drive, Howard County on May 22 (Chestem). **Black-throated Green Warblers** included 3 between Pennyfield and Violettes Lock on April 12 (Krueger), 1 singing in Garrett County on April 22 (Skipper), 1 north of Route 50 in Worcester County on April 23 (Hoffman), 1 seen near Downsville on April 23 (Malonee), and 1 at Sugarloaf Mountain on May 27 (Janni). Green Ridge continues to be a good location for early migrants with a **Blackburnian Warbler** found there on April 22 (Simons). Magnusson reported another at Schooley Mill on April 23, Janni recorded another Blackburnian at Constitution Gardens on April 25, and Nistico found his first of the season in Charles County on April 29. Very early **Pine Warblers** were singing at Triadelphia, Montgomery County on March 1 (Farrell) and on March 2 at Bozman (Reese), another was at Waldorf the same day (Jett), and Mark Hoffman tallied 20 Pine Warblers in southern Worcester County on March 9. Hoffman also found a **Prairie Warbler** at West Ocean City on April

16, and saw an early **Palm Warbler** in south-central Worcester County on March 11. Fifteen Palms were counted in eastern Howard County on April 11 (Kubitsky), 17 including 2 westerns at Boyds on April 12 (Czaplak), 20 in western Howard County on April 13 (Wallace), Ringler found a western race Palm singing at Gaither on May 2, Kirkwood reported a Palm at Harford Glen Park on May 5, and Czaplak saw even later birds with 3, all western, at Noland's Ferry on May 11. Czaplak also noted 2 **Bay-breasted Warblers** in DC on May 2. Bockstie discovered a **Blackpoll Warbler** at Centennial on June 1. The first **Cerulean Warblers** were 3 on April 22 at Green Ridge (Simons); Eastern Shore reports were of 1 on April 24 near the Ocean City airport (Hoffman), 1 on April 26 near Public Landing (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 1 near Pocomoke City on May 3 (M. O'Brien, Hoffman), and 1 banded at Eastern Neck on May 5; Hilton found a migrant singing in Takoma Park on May 18.

Other Warblers. Paul Nistico recorded his first **Black-and-white Warbler** for the season in Prince George's County on April 11. The first **American Redstart** was at Hughes Hollow on April 17 (Czaplak), 15 were seen south of Public Landing Road and west of the Pocomoke River on April 18 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), and the high for the season was 19 in DC on May 16 (Czaplak). A late migrant redstart was noted in DC on June 3 (Janni). **Prothonotary Warblers** arrived a little early with at least 1 at Pocomoke State Forest on April 12 (Hoffman), the first of the season in Montgomery County on April 17 (Bonham), and 1 seen building a nest at Greensboro on April 23 (Hewitt). **Worm-eating Warblers** were also early with 5 seen south of Public Landing Road and west of the Pocomoke River on April 18 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), the only bird banded for the season at Eastern Neck on April 20, 1 at Green Ridge on April 22 (Simons), and 1 in DC on April 24 (Janni). The only reports for the hard-to-find **Swainson's Warbler** were single birds checked off on April 19 at Milburn Landing by Dave Czaplak and April 29 at Green Ridge by Teresa Simons who also found an **Ovenbird** at Rocky Gap on April 9. Several Ovenbirds were heard at Waldorf on April 11 (Jett), several were seen at Nassawango Creek on April 12 (Pitney), at least 1 was at Pocomoke State Forest on April 12 (Hoffman), and 3 were noted at Trappe on April 12 (Reese). Stauffer Miller's first Frederick County **Northern Waterthrush** for the season was on April 17, 1 was at Hughes Hollow on April 19 (Krueger), and Czaplak noted 1 in DC on April 21. The first report for the **Kentucky Warbler** was at North Pocomoke Swamp on April 23 (Hoffman). There were only a few sightings of **Mourning Warblers** this season with 1 male near Savage on May 9 (Peter Osenton, Gregg Zuberbier), 1 in Rockville on May 11 (Paul O'Brien), 1 heard on May 16 in Washington County (Nistico), 1 at Poplar Hill Creek, St. Mary's County on May 16 (Stasz), 2 near Blockhouse Point on May 21 (Krueger), and 1 singing at Seneca on May 31 (Fritz Davis). A **Common Yellowthroat** either enjoyed a mild winter or was an extraordinarily early migrant at Sycamore Landing on March 7 (Homan+). Others of note were 1 male in near breeding plumage on April 3 at the Wildfowl Trust near Grasonville (Nistico), at least 1 at Pocomoke State Forest on April 12 (Hoffman), and the first one banded at Eastern Neck on April 14. The earliest **Hooded Warbler** was at Pennyfield on April 16 (Krueger), 1 was noted at North Pocomoke Swamp on April 17 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 2 were at Rockburn Branch on April 18 (Ott), and 6 were checked off at Green Ridge on April 22 (Simons). Bockstie reported an early **Wilson's Warbler** at Rockburn Branch on April 28, Stasz found a Wilson's near Morgan Station, Carroll County on May 1, the last one banded at Eastern Neck was on May 28, and a solo Wilson's was at Schooley Mill the same day (Magnusson). Reliable Green Ridge rewarded Teresa Simons with a **Canada Warbler** on April 29 and a **Yellow-breasted Chat** on April 22. Another chat was at Rockburn Branch even earlier on April 18 (Ott).

Tanagers, Grosbeaks, Buntings. A male **Summer Tanager** singing at Seneca on May 24 (Ed Wiegel+) was unusual. Bonham recorded April 17 as the arrival date in Mont-

gomery County for the **Scarlet Tanager**, and other reports included 1 at Pocomoke State Forest on April 18 (Hoffman), 1 at Denton on April 19 (Roberta Fletcher), and 2 at Green Ridge on April 22 (Simons). The McClures had an early **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** at their feeder in Howard County on April 24, David Walton saw 1 at his feeder in Gaithersburg on April 26, and Ringler found an immature male singing at Rockburn Branch on May 24. The first **Blue Grosbeaks** were 2 at Sandy Point on April 18 (Bjerke, Gary Nelson), 1 at Deep Creek Airport on April 19 (Stasz), 1 at the Ocean City airport on April 24 (Hoffman), and 1 at Wye Island on April 25 (Harvey). Stasz reported an **Indigo Bunting** at Big Pool on April 14, and the Grubers noted 1 at Eastern Neck on April 20. Several Maryland birders enjoyed seeing the adult female **Painted Bunting** at Stockton through April 19 (Hoffman, Hilton), and the Grubers banded a female Painted Bunting at Eastern Neck on May 21.

Sparrows. Czaplak reported 2 late **American Tree Sparrows** at Boyds on April 4. **Chipping Sparrows** followed the trend of the season; wintering birds included 1 in Beltsville on March 2 (Mike Donovan), 1 was at Federalsburg on March 6 (Glime), another at Chestertown on March 7 (Grubers), and 20 were counted in northern Worcester County on March 10 (Hoffman). The **Clay-colored Sparrow** found earlier in the winter was seen by many birders through April 4 (Hoffman+), and the Grubers notched 1 at Eastern Neck on April 20. Dave Czaplak counted 52 **Field Sparrows** at Boyds on April 17. **Vesper Sparrows** were 3 at Pocomoke State Forest on March 9 (Hoffman), 1 at Pinto on March 21 (Simons), 6 at Boyds on April 4 (Czaplak), and 1 at Assateague on April 19 (Hoffman). Flocks of **Savannah Sparrows** at Boyds numbered 9 on March 22, 17 on April 4, 32 on April 12, and 44 on April 17 (Czaplak). There were 15 at UMCF on March 8 (Farrell, Solem), 15 in southern Worcester County on March 9 (Hoffman), 27 at Easton on April 19 (Reese), 5 in DC on May 10 (Czaplak), and 2 at Chesapeake Beach on May 27 (Stasz). Czaplak noted early **Grasshopper Sparrows** at Boyds with 1 on April 4 and 3 on April 12. **Henslow's Sparrow** sightings continue to be scarce; David Walbeck and party reported 1 in a field near Finzel Swamp on May 9. Hoffman found 2 **Sharp-tailed Sparrows** at Ocean City on March 14. Other reports included 1 at Chesapeake Beach on April 12—probably Acadian (Stasz, Blom), 7 at Deep Creek Airport on May 3 (Stasz), and 7 at Cove Point on May 9 (Stasz, Boyd). An early **Seaside Sparrow** was at Ocean City on March 14 (Hoffman); and others of note were a few seen at Fort Smallwood Park on May 2 (Ricciardi, Walbeck+), 25+ at Deep Creek Airport on May 3 (Stasz), 37 on the May count in Calvert County on May 9 (Stasz), and 1 at the Route 213 bridge over the Bohemia River, Cecil County on May 30 (Stasz). Several **Fox Sparrows** seemed delayed by the mild winter, with the last reports of 1 at Wilde Lake on April 26 (Bockstie) and 2 at Assateague on April 5 (M. O'Brien, Hoffman). The high counts for **Song Sparrows** were 140 at Boyds on April 14 (Czaplak), and 80 at Eastern Neck on April 1 (Grubers). The **Lincoln's Sparrow** discovered by Jim Stasz at Upper Marlboro on the very early date of March 20 probably overwintered. Janni found 3 Lincoln's at Rock Creek Park on May 5, 1 was banded at Eastern Neck on May 21, and a Lincoln's was at Schooley Mill on May 28 (Magnusson). There were 36 **Swamp Sparrows** counted at Boyds on April 17 (Czaplak), and single birds were still at Schooley Mill on May 21 (Magnusson) and at Lucy Point on May 23 (H. Armistead+). A white-headed **White-throated Sparrow** was observed at Myrtle Grove on March 25 (Ringler, Stasz) and a late White-throated was noted at Eastern Neck on May 28 (Grubers). Wilson spotted 4 **White-crowned Sparrows** at Ocean Pines on March 17, 29 were counted at Lilypons on March 29 (Czaplak), another was at Phoenix on May 10 (Walbeck, Burkhardt), and a late bird was at Sandy Point on May 17 (O'Donnell). Two **Dark-eyed Juncos** lingered at Wilde Lake on May 7 (Chestem). Mike O'Brien heard a **Lapland Longspur** singing near Lilypons on March 19.

Blackbirds and Orioles. Early **Bobolinks** were 3 at Piscataway on April 20 (Luther Goldman), 32 at Pinto on April 25 (Simons), a flock of about 20 in northwest Carroll County on April 26 (Ringler), 1 near Johnsville on April 26 (Miller), 4 near Lilypons the same day (Czaplak), and 10 near Triadelphia on April 27 (Wallace). A flock of 60+ was at Fulton on May 8 (Magnusson+), and 10 or so were spotted on May 28 at Piscataway (Nistico). There were about 100 **Rusty Blackbirds** on March 9 near Truitts Landing (Hoffman, M. O'Brien). Homan counted a flock of about 85 Rusties at Hughes Hollow on March 13, 18 were in Columbia on March 21 (Farrell, Solem), and 60 in DC on March 28 (Czaplak). At least 6 **Brewer's Blackbirds** were at Stockton on March 5-6 (Willem Maane) and a male and a female were there through April 12 (Krueger). William Maane found 2 Brewer's near Lilypons on April 24. The high count for **Boat-tailed Grackles** was 300 in Ocean City on March 22 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien); Stasz noted 1 male at Claiborne on May 29. Jan Reese estimated 2000 **Common Grackles** at Chesapeake City on March 5. Early **Orchard Orioles** were single birds at Bellevue (Armisteads) and Chestertown (Grubers) on April 18, 1 at Violettes Lock on April 20 (Walbeck), and another the same day at Centennial (Farrell). George Fink had a **Northern Oriole** at his feeder in Newcomb on March 18. Nuttle checked off a Northern Oriole at Denton on April 16, and Warfield found 1 at Point of Rocks on April 20.

Finches. Phil and Barbara Davis observed 6 to 8 **Purple Finches** at a time at their feeder in Davidsonville the week of April 5th, 17 visited a feeder in Bel Air, Allegany County on April 11 (Simons), and 18 were counted at Black Hill Park on April 27 (Czaplak). The only **Common Redpolls** were the 2 that wintered in Salisbury seen through March 28 (Dyke+). A **Pine Siskin** was observed at the Davidsonville feeder on April 8-9 (Davises), 2 were at Green Ridge on May 20 (Simons), 3 were noted at Skipper's feeder in Garrett County on May 21, and 2 were at Swallow Falls SP on May 24 (Stasz+); 5 were there on May 30 (M. O'Brien).

9763 Early Spring Way, Columbia, Maryland 21046

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MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Cylburn Mansion, 4915 Greenspring Ave., Baltimore, Maryland 21209

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Active Membership (adults)	$10.00 plus local chapter dues
Household	15.00 plus local chapter dues
Sustaining	25.00 plus local chapter dues
Life	400.00 (4 annual installments)
Junior (under 18 years)	5.00 plus local chapter dues

Cover: Young Barn Owls at nest at Lake Roland, Baltimore County, May 31, 1936. Photo by Brooke Meanley.

MARYLAND BIRDLIFE

VOLUME 48 DECEMBER 1992 NUMBER 4

A TALE OF A HOLE

EMILY D. JOYCE

"The woodpecker pecked out a little round hole
And made him a house in the telephone pole..."
—*Elizabeth Madox Roberts*

Since telephone poles are now treated with creosote, woodpeckers are not as prone to do that. Creosote does not treat them or their offspring kindly. Once in a while, however, a woodpecker may discover a pole that has been around for years and is available for use. Such a pole exists in my community.

While out walking in early April of 1990, I head the kind of rapping that only a Pileated Woodpecker makes, and it was close by. As I scanned the area, I found him high up in a telephone pole which was within a foot or two of a busy suburban street in central Anne Arundel County, Maryland. He was busily excavating a hole that I could tell was already very deep since he almost disappeared each time he tipped over to continue his work. Each time he emerged, he would spit out a beak full of wood chips. Whenever I walked that way during the next six weeks, I watched that hole. Often I saw the woodpecker coming or going. Some time in May, there were two youngsters peaking out of the hole and after that I didn't see them there again.

On February 4, 1991, as I was walking past the area I wondered whether the woodpeckers would use the hole for the winter roost and glanced up at the hole. It wasn't there. My first thought was that the phone company had plugged the hole, but as I stood there pondering the matter, the hole opened its eyes and glared down at me. The plug was a red-phase Eastern Screech Owl which was so well camouflaged that subsequent observations were easy. If I could see the hole, the owl wasn't there. I saw the owl fairly regularly until May 16, but saw no signs of nesting other than its continued presence.

I first noticed the owl in the hole again on April 8, 1992. It may have been there longer, but I was not walking that route on a regular basis until then. I have seen it since on a regular basis if I pass that way late in the afternoon. On June 10, I drove that way to check the nest cavity and found, to my surprise, that while the hole had something in it, it wasn't the normal reddish "plug." I parked the car and grabbed the binoculars to check it out and discovered, to my delight, that a downy young screech owl was occupying the space normally taken by the parent. The adult has been seen several times since then, but that was the only day that the young was seen.

What will the next nesting season bring? You can be sure that I'll be watching that telephone pole to find out!

816 Oak Trail, Crownsville, MD

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY AUGUST 15, 1992

The Annual Membership Meeting was called to order by John Malcolm, President, at Salisbury State University in Salisbury. John Malcolm thanked the Wicomico Chapter for the great work they did on the Conference. The winner of the pin design for the Conference, a delightful Brown-headed Nuthatch, was Pat Moore, former Montgomery Chapter member now residing in North Carolina. Ellen Lawler was thanked for her work on the Conference and given a tote bag. Pat Moore was also thanked for her art work and given a tote bag.

John Taylor's original painting for the cover of the Atlas was on display. John Malcolm thanked John Taylor again for this lovely work. MOS really appreciates it.

MOS awards two different service pins. The red one is given by the State MOS to persons who have done outstanding work. This year John Malcolm awarded Valued Service Certificates and pins to: Leland DeVore of Harford Chapter, Joy Aso of Montgomery Chapter, and Rich Dolesh of Jug Bay Chapter.

The raffle, which had a number of very nice prizes, took in $1,011.

The Minutes of the last membership meeting, held on May 25, 1991, were accepted as amended.

Treasurer's Report. MOS is solvent. When Emily Joyce, the outgoing Treasurer took over, the investments totaled about $150,000; they are now at $400,000, mostly from bequests. Copies of the annual financial report were distributed.

Past President's Report. The Executive Board has done a great job.

Audit Committee Report. The books are in order. Emily Joyce has done excellent work.

Budget Committee Report. The budget was passed in April for the next fiscal year.

By-Laws Committee Report. The change in the wording of the By-Laws was proposed and voted on by the Board at the May 25, 1991 meeting. However, one change was not in the printed copies sent out. This change is as follows:

Article VII, Board of Directors, Section 3.

Remove the clause, "adopt a budget for the current fiscal year;" from the second sentence which begins "At its initial meeting..."

Insert the clause, "adopt a budget for the next fiscal year;" into the third sentence which begins, "At its concluding meeting..."

Since this did not get into the printed copy, it must again be voted on. It was moved that this change be made in the By-Laws and that motion passed.

Conference Committee Report. The 1993 Conference will be at Frostburg on June 4, 5, and 6. The 1994 Conference will be held at held at the Bible Conference Center which is right on the Chesapeake Bay in Cecil County. The 1995 Conference will be held at Mount Saint Mary's College in Emmitsburg, near Camp Greentop in the Catoctin Mountains where the first MOS Conference was held in 1945. Ellen Lawler reported that for the current Conference there were 220 attendees and 31 field trips. The pelagic trip had to be cancelled because of weather. The silent auction made about $762.

Education Committee Report. There is still no Chair for this committee. Phil Davis is preparing the Speakers List.

Conservation Committee Report. MOS is respected in Maryland and Nationwide. It is important that MOS continue to speak out and use this influence.

Locally, Black Marsh is going to have limited development, so our efforts were not completely successful. A compromise plan is being worked on for the protection of Belt Woods, a unique ancient forest in Prince George's County; development is planned in the surrounding area. The town of Ocean City opposed the closing of the Fourth Street Flats island to picnickers, boaters, etc. This closing should be supported as this is a nesting and resting area for various water birds, A petition was circulated regarding this issue; it is important that our voice be heard as there is not much open land left in Ocean City.

At the State level, there is little money, so what money there is went to other programs. However, Program Open Space was funded by a bond measure.

Recent Federal administrations have not been supportive of the environment. There has been an erosion of commitment, although the wetlands regulations were not changed as drastically as the President's Council desired. This was because of letters MOS and other organizations sent. But the Wetlands Policy Delineation Manual is being rewritten and we all need to write giving our full support for preservation of wetlands. ZIP codes are 20510 for the Senate and 20515 for the House.

An important bill, HR5013, to protect exotic birds from the cagebird trade, has passed the House and gone to the Senate. There is a lucrative black market in these birds. Ask your Senator to sign on as a co-sponsor for this bill in the Senate. Reauthorization of the Endangered Species Act pits business and pro-development people against environmentalists; it is very important that this act be re-authorized. The Clean Water Act is also coming up soon. Both of these are vital to keep our environment livable and to keep the species diversity that is needed.

Each chapter should have a Conservation Committee. Rich will continue to keep these committees informed.

Gifts Committee Report. The function of this committee is to obtain gifts and propose ideas on what to do with the gifts. A strawman proposal was presented at the last Board meeting. Parts of this proposal were passed, i.e.: $3,500 for MOS brochures, $20,000 put aside for the next Atlas. It was agreed that the Gifts Committee would put together a proposal to be presented at the next Board meeting, which will take place later tonight. The letter with that proposal is attached to the report

Investments Committee Report. The investments have been making an annual increase of about 6.83%. The Committee is looking into ways to raise the income and value of the portfolio, since at this time interest rates are falling.

Long Range Planning Committee Report. A Long Range Planning questionnaire will go out soon to each Chapter to be filled out and returned. The results will then be published.

Research Committee Report. Karen Skuldt has a new job in Pennsylvania and so is resigning as chairman of this committee. We need to attract more research grant applications. John Malcolm thanked the authors of the four research papers presented at the conference and the 40 people who attended the presentations.

Sanctuary Committee Report. About 140 acres have been donated as an addition to Irish Grove. Boy Scout Troop 802 from Aberdeen did much work on the barn, roof, etc. Carey Run has all new windows. On October 17 Jan Reese will be at Mill Run Sanctuary for a work day.

Scholarship Committee Report. Eight people applied and there were seven winners. The first group went to the Audubon Camp in Connecticut and the second group went to Maine. Dr. Gebhard asked that each Chapter publicize the scholarships so more applications are received.

Atlas Committee Report. The Atlas was begun with planning in 1982 and field work in 1983, and the book should be available in 1993. Ten members met and proofed the double-spaced drafts of the written accounts, which came to about 1,000 pages. Maps are being computer generated and as soon as they are done the final draft will go to the printer.

County Lists. There was a transposition error in the Life Lists in the March-April 1992 Yellowthroat. It should read: Hal Wierenga 354, Paul O'Brien 353.

Publications Committee Report. Work on Maryland Birdlife was delayed in order to give priority to completing the Atlas manuscript, but now the committee is catching up. They need more research papers, which will be sent for peer review. Both *Maryland Birdlife* and *The Maryland Yellowthroat* are being printed on recycled paper. The next deadline for the *Yellowthroat* is October 1, 1992; activities lists for December and January are needed before that date.

Nominating Committee Report. The term of office for MOS officers now runs from September 1 to August 31. The slate was again introduced: Bill Newman for President, Al Haury for Vice President, Larry Fry for Treasurer, and Joan Stephens for Secretary. There were no nominations from the floor, and the slate was voted in by acclaim.

Out-going president, John Malcolm, mentioned the items that have been accomplished while he served:

Completed the Atlas
Updated the By-Laws to make MOS run more smoothly
Increased dues to keep MOS in the black
Two Rain Forest Challenges were met
Sixty-four acres were received, with more to come
Many bequests have been received
The yellow Field List was reprinted
All publications are on recycled paper
Added non-birding trips to Conference events
Research papers are being presented at the Conferences
Work has begun on a BIG 50th anniversary Conference.

MOS has pulled off many good things of which we can all be proud.

Bill Newman, the incoming President, presented John Malcolm with a Valued Service Award to a standing ovation.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

Joan Stephens, *Secretary*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

One By-Laws change, concerning the time when the annual budget is adopted, was submitted to the membership for approval. This change had been inadvertently omitted from submission to the 1991 membership meeting. The change was approved. Otherwise, no activity was needed by the committee.

William B. McIntosh, *Chairman*

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

The Maryland Ornithological Society has a total of $189,249 invested as of June 1992. These monies are allocated into funds as directed by the Board of Directors as follows:

Operating	$ 8,070
Research	42,543
Sanctuary	50,447
Scholarship	55,610
Sanctuary Endowment	32,579
Total Invested	$189,249

The bulk of the investments are allocated to common stocks, bonds, and money market funds. Most of the common stocks are stocks that were left to the Society.

Current annual income yield on portfolio is 6.83%.

Realized and unrealized capital gains and losses will be reported in next year's annual report, as specific cost bases must be rechecked with our broker, Ferris, Baker, Watts.

The investment Committee continues to monitor the portfolio, but not make major reallocations to different security types or allocation percentages. With the recent decisions of the Board of Directors to allocate significant cash reserves, new investment allocations will be evaluated.

John C. Barber, *Chairman*

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

The Library Committee has been made custodian of a very special gift. William and Florence Eichhorn have made available for our viewing The Field Guide Art of Roger Tory Peterson. This large, magnificent two-volume publication of Eaton Press of Norwalk, Connecticut, presents the paintings made by RTP for the latest revisions of his eastern and western field guides. The pictures are the same size as painted, making the volumes too large for the Eichhorns to use comfortably in their new Charlestowne Retirement Community home, but just the right size for visitors to Cylburn to enjoy and marvel over. During the past year many people have leafed through the books (there being very little printed matter) at the meetings of the Baltimore Bird Club and during Cylburn Open House events. The MOS Library Committee sent a letter of appreciation to the Eichhorns for this gift with an acknowledgment of the agreement under which we have accepted the books, the agreement being that when the Eichhorns find more room in their apartment for these volumes we will be happy to return them. Until then you may find them in the Cylburn Library during its regular hours.

During the past year President John Malcolm has been using the microfilmed version of *Maryland Birdlife* as he gathers materials for his project of writing the history of the MOS.

I have supplied back issues of Maryland Birdlife to several individuals and institutions who for some reason have failed to receive them. Remainders of the recent issues have been added to the Cylburn remainder supply.

While not a Library Committee function, I must report the addition of some interesting study skins to the MOS collection. Brooke Meanley has made available some skins of importance to his more than 50 year career as an ornithologist, much of it in Maryland. We are grateful for these additions.

We in Baltimore extend a sincere invitation to all MOS members to visit our Bird Museum, use our study skins, our library, and our collection of ornithological journals received in exchange for *Maryland Birdlife*. Contact our president for directions and hours of Cylburn Mansion.

Joy Wheeler, *Chairman*

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

In anticipation of the Society's fiftieth anniversary in 1995, President John Malcolm asked the Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) to poll the membership to determine which topics members considered most important in future planning. Agreement on those subjects could focus the emphasis for the decades ahead, or it could reveal a need for a change in direction.

To comply with the president's request, the LRPC is compiling a questionnaire which will be inserted in a regular state MOS mailing, perhaps in the coming year. The Committee is grateful to members of the Board of Directors for the numerous thoughtful suggestions they offered during the current year.

Because the LRPC chair is a member of the Gifts Committee, I recently provided recommendations to that committee for the disposition of several bequests recently received by the Society.

Joanne K. Solem, *Chairman*

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Sue Ricciardi of Anne Arundel Chapter, Joe Vangrin of Harford Chapter, and Carolyn Mills of Talbot Chapter accepted appointments to the Nominating Committee for two-year terms expiring in 1993. They joined Joseph Swope of Washington Chapter and Brent Byers of Baltimore Chapter whose terms expire in 1992.

As specified in the Bylaws, the Nominating Committee selected a slate of officers for the 1992-1993 year. The following persons have accepted nomination for 1992-1993:

President	William Newman	Baltimore Chapter
Vice President	Allan Haury	Anne Arundel Chapter
Treasurer	Larry Fry	Harford Chapter
Secretary	Joan Stephens, incumbent	Jug Bay Chapter

Brent Byers, *Chairman*

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

The Research Committee met to discuss the changes needed to publicize and award grants in keeping with the increased budget available through the generous bequest partially allocated to the committee. New advertising strategies and information sheets are being drafted. There has been increased inquiry and application activity.

The committee has again organized an afternoon paper session for the annual conference. The names and topics are listed in the conference program.

During the fiscal year ending April 30, 1992, one research grant was awarded: $1,000 to Chan Robbins to support travel costs for two MOS volunteers in his research on habitat use by neotropical migrants in Mexico and Central America.

With this report, your Chairman is resigning because of relocating to another state.

Karen Skuldt, *Chairman*

SANCTUARY COMMITTEE

Another year has gone by without any formal meetings of the Sanctuary Committee. Besides the maintenance activities I would like to report:

(1) Rick Blom is still in residence at tum Suden Sanctuary.

(2) The boundaries of the Carolyn W. Wilson Sanctuary have been located and sanctuary signs posted along the boundaries.

(3) The Eastern Shore Land Trust, working with the Lower Shore Land Trust, is in process of obtaining about 140 acres that are adjacent to Irish Grove Sanctuary.

When the transactions are complete this land is to be turned over to the Maryland Ornithological Society and will become part of Irish Grove Sanctuary.

Maintenance activities at the Sanctuaries are done primarily by the wonderful people who volunteer to do the work. Without these wonderful volunteers we would not be able to maintain these sanctuaries. The MOS owes them its gratitude. The following work was accomplished this past year.

IRISH GROVE:

The November work weekend was memorable because of high water in the area. Participants had to drive on water-covered roads to reach the sanctuary. There was so much water in the marshes that we were unable to do any trail maintenance. The work accomplished was on the buildings on the high land. The major project was returning the Dining Pavilion to an upright position; it had been leaning ever since the big storm two years ago. Thanks to the engineering skills of Mike Knott, the crew was able to bring all uprights to their proper positions. Supports were nailed in place to hold this position through the winter. A new floor was put on the Round Pond tower, and three storm windows were replaced on the house.

In March, Boy Scout Troop 802 from Aberdeen, under the leadership of Bill Russell, spent a camping working weekend at Irish Grove. They filled and tamped the holes behind the Dining Shed uprights, cut and stacked fire wood, removed the last of the aluminum barn roof that had been blown into the woods, and did general cleanup of the whole area.

The April work weekend was blessed with beautiful weather. The main project was installing a new screen door and replacing the screening on the Dining Pavilion. The door and outside walls were painted, and the Pavilion looks almost as good as new. Other projects completed were building a bridge in the marsh between the South Marsh and East Creek trails, painting wood preservative on Round Pond Tower, putting gravel in the floor of the latrine, some patching of the roof of the house, and general pruning and house cleaning.

CAREY RUN:

New flashing was installed to relieve the problem of water leaking in the bathroom addition. On the April workday the usual housecleaning was done. The three new replacement windows we installed work really well, and we plan to replace all the others over the next two years. Rain deterred outside projects.

I want to thank all the people who have helped make this another successful year.

Dottie Mumford, *Chairman*

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Ecology Scholarship winners for 1992 were: **Helen Miller Scholarship**, Glen Hedelson, Science Department Chm., Bel Air Middle School; Edmund Mitzel, Jr., Science Teacher, Arbutus Middle School; Laurie Sentman, Fifth Grade Teacher, William S. James Elementary School; **Orville Crowder Memorial Scholarship**, Patricia Ghingher, Science Teacher, Pine Grove Middle School; **Edith Bourne Memorial Scholarship**, Sylvia Hutt, Fifth Grade Teacher, North Harford Elementary School.

Ornithology Scholarship winners were: **Chandler S. Robbins Scholarship,** James Wiley, Jr., Bird Bander and Lecturer, Harford Glen Bird Banding Station; **Eleanor C. Robbins Scholarship**, David Kiolkowski, Jr., Senior, Joppatown High School.

Mildred Gebhard, *Chairman*

ANNUAL REPORTS OF LOCAL CHAPTERS

ANNE ARUNDEL BIRD CLUB

Our chapter enjoyed another successful year. The eight monthly meetings were well attended with various programs covering topics about birds of Central Pacific Refuges, Optics, Captive Breeding, Gull Identification, Falconry, membership "Show and Tell," and Spring Warbler Identification." The Severn River Junior High School continues to be a very nice place for our meetings with full cooperation of the school staff. Our Annual Robert E. Heise, Jr. Wildlife Program, held in the Blue Heron Room of Quiet Waters Park, was "Piping Plovers in Maryland" presented by Laurie MacIvor. It was fairly well attended with about 70 people present, down from last year's program, with benefits going to the Scholarship Fund and the Sanctuary Fund.

Our membership this year is 205, which enables us to have an additional director for the MOS Board Meetings. We elected a third director at our Annual Business Meeting in March 1992. Refer to my official business report for details of the business meeting.

Members and guests participated in 25 field trips which included a falconry demonstration and a weekend birding at Carey Run Sanctuary. We continued to co-sponsor bird walks with Sandy Point State Park. Two of our members and one park ranger led the four trips, two in May and two in June. We also led one bird walk at Quiet Waters Park as part of their Earth Day activities in April.

Members also participated in two Irish Grove Work Weekends, the Carey Run Weekend, our annual three-day Winter Weekend field trip, and the spring and fall picnics hosted by the Iliffs and Brian Bowie/Kathy Lambert. An informal Conservation Committee was established, chaired by Sally Loving. Through her appreciated efforts, members were kept up to date on current national, state, and county conservation and environmental issues. This was made a Standing Committee at our annual business meeting.

Club members active in the MOS this year were Sanctuary Committee Chair Dottie Mumford and Treasurer Emily Joyce. There was good participation in the Christmas and May Counts. The Annapolis Christmas Count tally was held at Quiet Waters Park, courtesy of Michael Murdock, Park Superintendent.

In the name of the AABC, I presented the North American Bluebird Society's tape as part of Quiet Waters Lecture Series. Jon Boone, co-founder of NABS was present and supplemented the tape with his comments.

Allan Haury, *President*

BALTIMORE BIRD CLUB

This year has seen a movement toward the 21st century and an attempt to bring younger members into the club. The bimonthly newsletter *Chip Notes* has been expanded to include a tri-monthly program of activities. Mixed feelings have been expressed by the membership over discontinuance of the annual program booklet. A well-attended spring seminar of three meetings was held for beginning birders. This series and other program changes will continue next year.

The museums at Cylburn Mansion were open at all open houses and other functions of Cylburn Arboretum. Our expanded youth program saw over 3,000 school children and accompanying adults visit the many park trails as well as the museums. These trips were led by our chapter members, and the Baltimore Bird Club paid for bus transportation for Baltimore City public school students who participated. We filled the several bird feeders in the park area three times a week during the fall, winter, and spring.

Our membership was 500 strong, we have received several new applications for the coming year, and the financial situation looks favorable. The auditor found the treasurer's records to be in order.

Over 35 talks to garden clubs, schools, senior centers, scout troops, and nursing homes reached over 1,500 people, spreading the message about bird watching and the need for conservation of Maryland's natural resources.

Earl Palmer, *President*

FREDERICK COUNTY CHAPTER

Our nine meetings, eight with programs, were very well attended. We meet on the first Thursday of each month at Frederick High, except for the December meeting at Araby Church for a Christmas dinner and the May meeting at Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Stone's beautiful home and wildlife refuge atop Braddock Mountain. Paul Fritz, compiler of the Washington Monument Hawk Count, kicked off the year in September with a program on Hawk Migration. In October, Dr. Jack Stewart presented slides and a discussion of the Osprey's behavior from a psychologist's point of view. Member Dave Smith presented a continuation of his master's degree thesis, "The Kestrel's Use of Winter Habitat." Originally studied in Florida, Dave has continued his work in Frederick and Carroll Counties. Laurie MacIvor, a biologist with the DNR, talked about the successes and failures of Maryland's dwindling breeding population of the Piping Plover. At the Christmas meeting, Bob Ringler showed his fantastic slides of birds and scenery of Alaska, most taken through a Questar scope. Tom Valega's January presentation on bats produced no known converts to the idea of keeping them in the house, but certainly a great deal of understanding was developed—even as bats flew around the music room. Edith Thompson gave a slide show on backyard wildlife in March, and at our wrap-up program in April, Bob Dean captivated the club with the endless possibilities of birding in the two nearby counties of West Virginia.

The Chapter sponsored 12 field trips, including the Christmas and May Counts and one river park clean-up session. For at least one member, the Bald Eagle became a Frederick County life bird during the clean-up efforts. Birding trips included Lily Pons, Gambrill State Park, selected sparrow and waterfowl haunts, and the C&O Canal towpath, all in Frederick County. Outside the county were trips to Piney Run Park in Carroll

County, Black Hill Park in Montgomery County, Altona Marsh in Charles Town, West Virginia, and Huntley Meadows in Fairfax County, Virginia.

Bill duBell, *President*

HARFORD COUNTY CHAPTER

Our chapter, with 204 members, had a very busy and profitable year. Continued emphasis on birdwatching and the environment from four sources has increased interest in membership. These sources are: education; the noncredit courses offered at Harford Community College; the programs offered at Conowingo Visitors' Center by our member, June Vaughn; and the most recent work done at Eden Mill, a county park that had been closed for years, by new member, Frank Marsden.

Field trip chairman, Dave Webb, and his committee planned 24 field trips to a variety of locations such as Waggoner's Gap, Bombay Hook, Falling Branch waterfall, the Maryland-Delaware coast, and Hart-Miller Island. Length and type are varied, so each individual can find an interest. From half-day trips for beginners to a weekend at Carey Run, our field trips offer endless opportunities to seek and find birds. Dave has also done an excellent job with publicity in the local newspapers and local cable TV.

The year began with our annual picnic and bull roast at the 4-H Camp at Rocks State Park. In addition to field trips, our club hosts four dinner meetings each year at Churchville Presbyterian Church. This year's speakers were Wayne Klockner, Director of the Maryland office of The Nature Conservancy, who spoke on birding in the local areas owned by TNC; member Mark Johnson, whose topic was "Birding and Banding in Belize"; member Beth Olsen, who spoke on planting and landscaping for wildlife; and member Kay Ibrahim, who gave a slide presentation on birds of East Africa.

Dennis Kirkwood organized the traditional Christmas Count, in which 60 birders in 14 parties found 93 species. Bill Pfingsten coordinated the midwinter count on which 86 species were recorded. Les Eastman organized the May Count.

Annual awards are presented at the March dinner meeting. Winners for 1991 were: Birder of the Year, John Wortman; Bird of the Year, Upland Sandpiper, hosted yearly by Tim and Virginia Magness; Lister of the Year, Dave Webb with 186 species; and Rookie of the Year, Bill Congersky.

Three years ago a memorial fund was established upon the death of member Virginia Kendall, who had been an avid birder and teacher for over 30 years at Churchville Elementary. After much consideration and planning, we decided to use the money from this fund to build a much-needed bird banding pavilion at Harford Glen. This would provide shelter for the banders and also create a facility for them to use for demonstrations to the numerous school groups that visit Harford Glen. Over 25 volunteers worked on a Saturday in April to complete the project, and a dedication ceremony was held in June. Banding continues at that site from April until November. Barbara Bilsborough, Sue and Ken Heselton, Bill Pfingsten, Jim Wiley, and Jean Williams have devoted endless hours to this club project.

An additional committee was formed this year entitled Environmental Issues, chaired by Bill Russell. He has been instrumental through our bimonthly newsletter in alerting members to current problems related to the environment.

Two of our members, Jim Wiley and Dave Ziolkowski, received MOS scholarships to the Audubon Camp in Maine. Also, three Harford County teachers, Glen Hedelson, Sylvia Hutt, and Laurie Sentman, received MOS scholarships to the Audubon Ecology Camp in Connecticut. We are proud of these winners.

Our chapter has had an active and productive year, and we look forward to continued growth. With the addition of at least three field trips designed especially for children, we hope to attract more young people to the hobby (or obsession) of birdwatching.

Jean Fry, *President*

HOWARD COUNTY CHAPTER

The highlight of the Howard County chapter's nineteenth year was the donation of $5,000 for the purchase of rain forest in the Sierra de las Minas mountain range in Guatemala. The sources of these funds were two very successful seed sales and special donations from members.

In addition to our usual monthly meetings, our year included many field trips, midwinter and May counts, our annual potluck program, and numerous outreach presentations by our members. Bi-monthly editions of our wonderful newsletter informed and educated the membership. Bluebirds and other species benefitted from our cavity nester program.

Such an active and successful program is possible only because of the many talented and dedicated people who support this organization. As president I would like to take this additional opportunity to thank them for their participation.

Ralph Geuder, *President*

JUG BAY BIRD CLUB

Unfortunately, the Jug Bay Chapter's membership has declined to 35 members. We are trying to rebuild the membership. Each month we have a speaker, a door prize, and refreshments. A field trip is scheduled each month, also. In the past year members participated in the Christmas Count, May Count, and various Prince George's County nature events. Our chapter officers for 1992-93 are: President, Wally Stephens; Vice President, Mike Callahan; Treasurer, Renee Burns; Secretary, Betty Porter; and Director, Mike Callahan.

Wally Stephens, *President*

WASHINGTON COUNTY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The Washington County chapter continued to meet at the Funkstown Elementary School from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., at a cost of $12 per month. Speakers presented programs on birding in China, Scotland, and Arizona, a falconer brought in a live bird, and we enjoyed an evening of slides on wildflowers. In January we had a pot luck supper and brought our own slides. We continued the long tradition of having picnics at members' homes the fourth Sunday of June, July, and August.

We continued to have many and varied field trips, from overnights to our Tuesday mini-walks, which meet from 9 a.m. to noon and have no pre-assigned leader. We had 31 field trips.

We participated in the Potomac Fish and Game Club weekend at the local mall and had a table promoting membership in MOS. Although no new members were directly recruited, the public showed much interest in our display. We had to cancel our Outdoor School for lack of response from our chapter membership. However, 44 people did participate in a one-day affair, met at a local restaurant for trip assignments and meals, and for doing the tally. We also continued to be active on environmental concerns, writing our congressmen and local leaders. We also were able to send a generous contribution to The Nature Conservancy.

Generally this was a good year. I do find most people are too busy to do as much birding as they would like, younger and/or working members have many obligations on weekends, and retired members pop off birding when they feel like it and also have responsibilities to those darling grandchildren! We have an new enthusiastic president in Steve Sessions, and are looking forward to a good year of birding.

Ann Mitchell, *President*

WICOMICO CHAPTER

Our monthly meetings at the Asbury United Methodist Church in Salisbury attracted an average of 30 to 40 people. Ellen Lawler spoke on "Sea Birds of Newfoundland," Hal Wierenga on "North Slope of Alaska," Joe Fehrer on "Nassawango Preserve," Steve Dawson on "Reintroduction of the Peregrine Falcon in Maryland," Phil Davis on "Birding Optics," Phil Creighton on "Galapagos, the Enchanted Isles," and Mary C. on "Outdoor Photography." We also had our Amateur Night in January.

Field trips visited favorite places on the Eastern Shore: Bay Bridge Tunnel islands, Chincoteague and Blackwater National Wildlife Refuges, Deal Island, Ocean City to Cape Henlopen, the Pocomoke River, and Salisbury Zoo. We also participated in six Christmas Counts, the May Count (3 counties), and the sixth annual Big Day on May 2. We hosted the MOS Annual Conference and participated in both Irish Grove work days. We appointed a conservation chairman and purchased an automatic-focus slide projector.

Dave Weesner, *President*

MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. BYLAWS (October 1992)

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Maryland Ornithological Society, Inc.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this organization is to further educational, scientific, and charitable pursuits relating to birdlife in Maryland.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership shall be open to any person in sympathy with the purpose of the organization upon payment of the dues applicable to the class of membership selected.

Section 2. The classes of membership shall be as follows: Individual, Household, Sustaining, Life, Junior, and Honorary. Dues and definitions shall be set forth in the Society's Manual of Operations, hereafter referred to as the Manual. All members shall be entitled to one vote at meetings, shall receive Society publications, and may serve on committees.

Section 3. Dues for any class of membership may be changed at any time upon recommendation of the Board of Directors, and approved by two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular or special membership meeting.

Section 4. The membership year shall begin on September 1. Members whose dues remain unpaid on February 1 shall be dropped from membership, but may be reinstated upon payment of the current year.

Section 5. New members shall pay full annual dues, unless they join on March 1 or later, in which case the dues shall be one-half.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the Society shall be the President, the Vice President, the Treasurer, and the Secretary.

Section 2. The officers shall be elected by a majority vote at the annual meeting, by ballot or voice vote, as the meeting determines. The officers shall assume their duties on September 1, and shall hold office for one year, through August 31, or until successors are chosen, or unless they are removed from office as provided in Section 3.

Section 3. Any officer of the Society may be removed from office by three-fourths vote of the total number of Directors. It is necessary for the Directors to show cause for such removal from office.

Section 4. The officers of the Society shall perform the usual duties of their respective offices as outlined in the Society's Manual, and such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors.

Section 5. There shall be non-elected administrative officers of the Society, to be appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors. Their terms shall be indefinite and may be terminated by either party upon giving at least one month's notice in writing.

(a) an Executive Secretary, who shall be employed by the Board of Directors and have such other duties as the President or Board of Directors shall designate; (b) an Editor, who shall be responsible for publication of the Society publications to be determined by the Board of Directors; and (c) other administrative officers who may be appointed as the need arises.

ARTICLE V. NOMINATIONS

Section 1. The Nominating Committee shall be a rotating committee consisting of five voting members from different chapters, two of whom shall be elected in even-numbered years, and three of whom shall be elected in odd-numbered years from the membership at large, by the Board of Directors at its initial meeting following the annual membership meeting. Each member shall serve for two years, or until a successor is elected. Before the next meeting of the Board of Directors, the Committee shall elect one of its members to serve as Chairman for a term of one year.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of this Committee to prepare a list of candidates for the elective offices to be filled at the annual meeting, and to submit this list for mailing to the membership with the notice of the annual meeting.

Section 3. It shall also be the duty of this Committee to prepare and present to the Board of Directors, at its initial meeting, a list of candidates for the ensuing year's Nominating Committee.

Section 4. Additional nominations for elective offices and Nominating Committee may be made from the floor at the annual membership meeting and Directors' meeting, respectively.

Section 5. No nomination shall be made without the nominee's prior consent.

ARTICLE VI. LOCAL CHAPTERS

Section 1. The Board of Directors may authorize the establishment of a local chapter upon the written petition of a group of not less than ten individuals who are interested in the Society. The petition shall include a copy of a constitution and/or bylaws for the proposed chapter.

Section 2. Each Chapter shall administer its affairs in a manner consistent with the Articles of Incorporation and these Bylaws of the Maryland Ornithological Society. Each Chapter shall be responsible for the collection of dues from its members, and the forwarding of Society dues to the Treasurer of the Society.

Section 3. Each Chapter shall elect a Director for each one hundred members or part thereof, to serve with the Chapter President on the Board of Directors of the Society.

Section 4. A Chapter may be dissolved by resolution of its own members, or the Board of Directors may recommend dissolution to the Society when, after consulting

with the governing board of that Chapter, it is deemed inoperative. All assets of the Chapter shall then become the property of the Society.

ARTICLE VII. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the elected officers of the Society, the Directors elected by the Chapters including Chapter President), chairmen of standing committees, and the immediate Past President. The Executive Secretary and the Editor shall serve as nonvoting members. No member, except Committee Chairmen, shall serve in more than one position. No individual shall have more than one vote.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall constitute the managing board of the Society; as such it shall have the power and authority to carry out policies of the Society, as determined at annual meetings, and to conduct the business of the Society.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall have a minimum of four meetings each year. At its initial meeting, which shall follow the annual membership meeting, the Board of Directors shall organize for the year; elect the required members of the Nominating Committee, as designated in Article V, Section 1; initiate plans for the location and date of the next annual meeting; and transact such business as lawfully may be brought before the meeting. At its concluding meeting, the Board of Directors shall receive and act on reports of its Officers and Committees for the preceding year; prepare its report and recommendations for presentation to the membership at the annual meeting; and take care of any unfinished business.

Section 4. At all meetings of the Board of Directors, one-third of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

Section 5. A Director who cannot be present at a meeting may designate in writing another member of the Society to serve as a proxy. Said proxy shall then have all the voting privileges of the absent Director. A proxy must not be another Director, must be from the same Chapter as the absentee and shall represent only one Director.

Section 6. The Board of Directors may vote by mail on matters referred to it by the President.

Section 7. Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors shall be filled in the following manner:

(a) The President: the Vice President shall automatically assume the office of the President; (b) Chapter Director: to be filled by the Chapter; (c) Other vacancies in the elected offices shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors, from the Board membership. A mail vote may be authorized if necessary.

ARTICLE VIII. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Section 1. The Executive Council shall consist of the elected officers of the Society: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Immediate Past President, with the President the Chairman of the Council. The Executive Secretary shall serve ex-officio, but shall not have a vote.

Section 2. The Executive Council shall have and exercise, during the intervals between the meetings of the Board of Directors, to the extent permitted by law, all the powers of the Board of Directors in the management and direction of the affairs of the Society.

Section 3. Meetings may be called by the President or any two members of the Council. Three members shall constitute a quorum. In emergencies, conferences may be arranged by telephone, and vote by telephone shall be permitted, provided that a three-fourths majority be obtained.

Section 4. All activities of the Executive Council must be reported at the next Board of Directors meeting.

ARTICLE IX. COMMITTEES

Section 1. Standing Committees may be created or terminated at any time by the Board of Directors. Appointments shall be made by the President, who shall also designate the chairman of each of the committees. Not more than two members of any standing committee may be appointed from the same chapter, except as provided for the Sanctuary Committee.

Section 2. Members of the standing committees serve with the President for one year. They may be reappointed.

Section 3. Enumeration and duties of standing committees are to be found in the Manual.

Section 4. Special committees may be designated by the President, with the approval of the Board of Directors. These committees shall be terminated: (a) when the purpose is completed, or (b) when the President leaves office. They may be reactivated by the succeeding President.

ARTICLE X. MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Section 1. The annual meeting of the members of the Society shall be held at a time and place in the State of Maryland to be designated by the Board of Directors. The purpose of the annual membership meeting shall be to elect officers and to transact such other business as may be brought before the meeting.

Section 2. Special meetings of the membership shall be called by the President, or on the written request to the Secretary by any three Directors representing three different Chapters. The business to be considered shall be determined in the request; time and place to be determined by those calling the meeting.

Section 3. At least 30 days prior to the annual meeting, and at least 20 days prior to the date of any special meeting of the members, the Executive Secretary shall mail a notice to each member entitled to vote, clearly stating the purpose of the meeting.

Section 4. At a membership meeting, 75 voting members shall constitute a quorum.

Section 5. The Minutes of the annual meeting, together with all reports or abstracts of such reports presented at the meeting, shall be published not more than 60 days after the meeting.

ARTICLE XI. SIGNATURES

Section 1. All notes of the Society shall be signed by both the President and the Treasurer, or in the extended absence of the President, by the Vice President and the Treasurer. All other checks shall be signed by both the Treasurer and the President, except as stated in Section 2.

Section 2. Expenses which result from normal operations, such as taxes, rent, cost of electricity, printing and others designated by the Board of Directors, shall be called budget expenses. Checks for budget expenses may be signed by either the Treasurer or the President.

ARTICLE XII. MANUAL OF OPERATIONS

Section 1. There shall be a Society Manual outlining duties and procedures for officers, committees, etc., to be reviewed regularly by the Bylaws Committee and revised as needed. All changes shall be approved by the Board of Directors. Action to change the Manual may also be initiated by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended by a vote of at least two-thirds of the membership present at a membership meeting, provided that the proposed amendment shall have been distributed in writing to the members not less than 30 days prior to the meeting, and have been previously approved by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XIV. DISSOLUTION

Section 1. If at any time the Society may be deemed inactive, the Board of Directors shall terminate the organization according to the laws of Maryland governing such associations/corporations, and, as stated in the Twelfth of Articles of Incorporation: "In the event of termination, or of dissolution, or winding-up of this Corporation in any manner or for any reason whatsoever, the remaining assets, if any, shall be distributed to (and only to) one or more organizations described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code."

ARTICLE XV. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1. The procedures in the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order (Revised) shall govern the Society in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws.

Section 2. The President may appoint a Parliamentarian to advise on matters of Parliamentary procedure.



THE SEASON

BREEDING SEASON, JUNE 1 - JULY 31, 1992

DANIEL R. SOUTHWORTH and LINDA SOUTHWORTH

The summer season was rather cool, often wet, and sometimes cold, resulting in some late migrant landbirds in June and late breeding activity for many species. This resulted in reduced reproductive success, especially for the coastal colonial species which were also adversely affected by the severe storms last fall and early winter that pounded several barrier islands and coastal dune systems.

Observers: Henry and George Armistead, Maurice Barnhill, Rick Blom, John Bjerke, Connie Bockstie, Don Broderick, Martha Chestem, John Churchill, David Czaplak, Phil & Barbara Davis, Ethel Engle, Jane Farrell, Roberta Fletcher (reporting for Caroline County), Jim & Patricia Gruber, Marvin Hewitt, Robert Hilton, Mark Hoffman, Marshall Iliff, Ottavio Janni, George Jett, Harry Krueger, Ellen Lawler, Nancy Magnusson, Tom McIntyre, Stauffer Miller, Harvey & Marion Mudd, Dotty Mumford, Ron Naveen, Marianna Nuttle, Michael O'Brien, Bonnie Ott, Jim Paulus, Paul Pisano, Elizabeth Pitney (reporting for the Wicomico Bird Club), Sue Probst, Jan Reese, Robert Ringler, Gene Scarpulla, Stephen Simon, Teresa Simons, Jo Solem (reporting for Howard County), Connie Skipper, Dan & Linda Southworth, Jim Stasz, Mary Twigg, David Walbeck, Robert Warfield, Joy Wheeler, Erika Wilson, Jim Wilkinson, Helen Zeichner, John Zyla. Banding was conducted at Eastern Neck NWR by Jim and Trish Gruber.

The leaders for the June 6, 1992 pelagic trip out of Ocean City, organized by Gene Scarpulla, are acknowledged under the Observers but sightings are listed in the text as (Scarpulla+).

Abbreviations: DC - District of Columbia, NWR - National Wildlife Refuge, SF - State Forest, SP - State Park, UMCF - University of Maryland Central Farm (Howard County), WMA - Wildlife Management Area.

Locations: Place names (with counties in parentheses) not in the index of the State highway map - Assateague Island (Worcester), Black Hill Park (Montgomery), Black Marsh (Baltimore), Blackwater NWR (Dorchester), Bloodsworth Island (Dorchester), Courthouse Point WMA (Cecil), Eastern Neck NWR (Kent), Hains Point (DC), Hart-Miller Dredged Material Containment Facility (Baltimore), Hooper Island (Dorchester), Hughes Hollow (Montgomery), Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary (Anne Arundel), Lake Elkhorn (Howard), Lake Kittamaqundi (Howard), Little Meadows Lake (Garrett), Loch Raven (Baltimore), McKeldin Area of Patapsco Valley State Park (Carroll unless noted otherwise), Piney Dam (Garrett), Piney Run Park (Carroll), Remington Farms WMA (Kent), Rockburn Branch Park (Howard), Rock Creek Park (DC), Sandy Point SP (Anne Arundel), Schooley Mill Park (Howard), Sugarloaf Mountain (Frederick), Swallow Falls SP (Garrett), Sycamore Landing (Montgomery), Triadelphia Reservoir (Howard unless noted otherwise), Town Hill (Allegany), Tuckahoe SP (Caroline unless noted otherwise), Violettes Lock (Montgomery).

Loons, Grebes, Petrels, Gannets. Late migrant **Common Loons** were 3 seen on the June 6 pelagic trip out of Ocean City (Scarpulla+) and 2 flying north at Ocean City on June 14 (Ringler, Blom). A first-summer Common Loon summered at Georgetown Reservoir, DC, seen from June 4 (Czaplak) through June 21 (Matthew O'Donnell, Janni), and another bird was at Ocean City on July 17 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien). Single inland **Pied-billed Grebes** were noted at Centennial on June 3 (Farrell) and Loch Raven on July 17 (Simon). Thirteen birds were counted on July 18 at Deal Island WMA, a traditional summer stronghold for Pied-billeds, where a **Horned Grebe** in breeding plumage was found the same day (H. Armistead). Marshall Iliff noted 2 adult Horned Grebes on July 13-14 at Hillsmere Shores, and 1 bird was still there as late as August 4. Pelagic birders notched 48 **Greater Shearwaters** on the June 6 trip out of Ocean City (Scarpulla+), and Harry Krueger and Mark Hoffman spotted another Greater in Maryland waters on June 20 along with 2 **Cory's Shearwaters**. Also tallied on the June 6 trip were 66 **Sooty Shearwaters** and 208 **Wilson's Storm Petrels** (Scarpulla+). On June 20, 30 Wilson's Storm Petrels were noted just off Ocean City and 100+ were counted 34 miles offshore on July 5 (Hoffman, Krueger). **Northern Gannet** sightings included 3 at Ocean City on June 2 (M. O'Brien, Janni, Pisano), an immature there on June 5 (Czaplak), and 2 subadults at Assateague on June 21 (Hoffman).

Pelicans, Cormorants, Anhinga. The **Pink-backed Pelican** that was reported this spring, an escapee from the Baltimore Zoo, was seen throughout the summer at Conowingo. **Brown Pelican** sightings included 5 off Poplar Island, Talbot County on May 29 (Pete Jayne), 20 at Smith Island on June 12 (Francie Iliff), 120 at Assateague on June 21 (Hoffman), 2 at Point Lookout on June 30 (M. O'Brien), 4 immatures at Bloodsworth Island on July 4 (Armisteads), and 10 still at Smith Island on August 4 (Iliff, Stasz, Sue Ricciardi). **Double-crested Cormorants** continue to expand their summer range with numerous sightings including: 19 flying over Clarksville on June 1 (Magnusson), 11 on the Potomac River at Sandy Hook on June 14 (Czaplak), 1 at Lake Merle, Frederick County on July 2 (Miller), 20 at Ocean City on July 3 (Hoffman), 65 at Bloodsworth Island on July 4 (Armisteads), and an adult at Piney Dam on July 12 (Ringler+). Harry Krueger reported a very unusual sighting of an **American Anhinga** at Courthouse Point on July 25.

Herons, Ibises. An **American Bittern** was at Deal Island WMA on June 5 (Stasz), and another was inland at Centennial on July 17 (Bockstie). Reports for **Least Bitterns** were numerous with highs of 6 at Hooper Island on June 7 (H. Armistead) and 5 at Chaptico Creek, St. Mary's County on June 26 (Stasz). A **Great Blue Heron** nest with 2 chicks was observed north of Maryland City, Anne Arundel County on June 20 (Walbeck). On July 4 the Armisteads counted 125 Great Blue Heron nests at Bloodsworth Island and 5 nests on Adam Island. Bob Ringler discovered an inland Great Blue at Swallow Falls SP on July 11. Post-breeding dispersal reports for **Great Egrets** included 1 at Denton on June 15 (Hewitt), 1 at Upper Marlboro on June 18 (Stasz), 1 at Lilypons on June 28 (Czaplak), 1 at the Baltimore City Harbor on July 2 (Wilkinson), and 2 at North Branch on July 25 (Twigg). The Armisteads noted 18 birds at Bloodsworth Island with 3 nests on July 4. Wandering **Snowy Egrets** were 1 at Eastern Neck on June 29 (Grubers), 16 at Bloodsworth Island on July 4 and 10 at Deal Island WMA on July 18 (Armsteads). Iliff counted 22 Snowies at North Beach on July 14. Jo Solem and Bonnie Ott discovered an adult **Little Blue Heron** inland at Plumtree Branch Pathway, Howard County on June 29, Hoffman counted 45 at Assateague on July 12, Chestem noted 1 at Centennial on July 14, and Stasz and Iliff reported 3 adults and 5 immatures at Courthouse Point on July 19. The highs for **Tricolored Herons** were 25 on July 12 at Assateague (Hoffman) and 35 on July 18 at Deal Island WMA (H. Armistead). George Jett reported a single Tricolored at Allens Fresh on July 13. A wandering **Cattle Egret** was reported inland at Lilypons on

June 30 (Jim Green) and the high was 20 near Sudlersville on July 28 (Wilson). Iliff counted 20 **Green-backed Herons** at Lilypons on July 27. Helen Zeichner noted 2 adult **Black-crowned Night-Herons** calling and circling Wilde Lake at dusk on June 23. Other Black-crowneds included 7 at North Branch on July 8 (Simons, Paulus), 3 immatures at Chesapeake Beach from July 15 through the end of the period (Stasz), and 1 throughout July at Lake Merle, Frederick County (Miller). **Yellow-crowned Night-Herons** were an adult at Lilypons on June 24 (Krueger), 2 adults at Adamstown on June 28 (Czaplak), and an immature seen at an unusual location, Lake Elkhorn, discovered by Phil and Barbara Davis on July 12. Jim Green reported an immature **White Ibis** at Lilypons on June 20 and John Keys discovered a **Glossy Ibis** in Beltsville on June 19. The high counts for the Glossy were 40 on July 18 at Deal Island WMA (H. Armistead) and 230 on July 25 at Assateague (Hoffman). Stasz and Iliff noted 4 adult and 4 immature Glossy Ibis at Courthouse Point on July 19. Harry Armistead found an adult **White-faced Ibis** at Deal Island WMA on July 18.

Waterfowl. As in 1988, a lone, adult **Tundra Swan** was found in July at Deal Island WMA by Harry Armistead (July 18). Harry also, unfortunately, found breeding **Mute Swans** for the first time on Bloodsworth Island with 2 adults and 4 downy young there on July 4. Four families of **Canada Geese** were recorded at North Branch on June 7 by Mary Twigg, consisting of 2 adults with 5, 3, 4, and 6 fledgling young respectively. Jan Reese spotted a flock of 32 at St. Michaels on June 13 and the summer high count was the 370 at Loch Raven on July 10 (Simon). Rare summer sightings of **Green-winged Teals** were the female near Riggins Corner, Dorchester County on June 5 and a brown-plumaged bird at Chesapeake Beach on July 28 (Stasz). Mark Hoffman also discovered 2 males and a female at Assateague on July 3. Harry Armistead noted 35 **American Black Ducks**, including 3 young, at Deal Island WMA on July 18 and Ringler and Blom saw a drake **Northern Pintail** at Bivalve on June 14. Interesting reports for **Blue-winged Teal** were a pair at North Branch on June 2 (Simons), 31 at Deal Island WMA on July 18, including a brood of 7 downy young (H. Armistead), a single bird at Assateague on July 18 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), and a male and female with 3 downy young at Chesapeake Beach on August 3 (Stasz). Harry Krueger reported a **Northern Shoveler** at Cambridge on July 5, Harry Armistead counted 75 **Gadwalls** including broods of young at Deal Island WMA on July 18, and Mike O'Brien noted a male **American Wigeon** summering near Ocean Pines, and a female **Redhead** at Lilypons on June 24. Summer reports for non-breeding diving ducks were widespread with a female **Ring-necked Duck** at the Berlin sewage pond seen from May through June (Hoffman) and a male at North Branch, July 10-17 (Stasz, Twigg, Ringler); a pair of **Lesser Scaup** at the Chestertown sewage lagoons on July 12 (Grubers), and another bird in DC on July 13 (Janni); an **Oldsquaw** at Sandy Point on June 1 (M. O'Brien, Janni, Pisano), 1 at Black Marsh on June 2 (Wheeler), a male at Ocean City on July 3 (Hoffman), and 1 there on July 17 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien); a female **Black Scoter** at Ocean City on June 1 (M. O'Brien, Janni, Pisano); a male **Surf Scoter** at Ocean City on July 3 (Hoffman); an adult **Common Goldeneye** at Jug Bay from June 10 to at least June 20 (Edward Baer, Bjerke); and a male **Bufflehead** at Centennial for several months, last seen on June 3 (Farrell). Mary Anne Todd discovered an adult **Hooded Merganser** with 5 ducklings at Hughes Hollow on May 27, Stasz noted a male at the Oakland sewage plant in Garrett County on June 14, Dave Czaplak found 2 Hoodeds at Blair's Valley Lake, Washington County on June 14 and a **Red-breasted Merganser** in Ocean City on June 5, and Harry Armistead noted another Red-breasted at Deal Island WMA on July 18. Hoffman spotted 2 male **Ruddy Ducks** at the Pocomoke City sewage ponds on July 4, Stasz and Iliff discovered a male at Chesapeake City on July 19, the Grubers notched a Ruddy in summer plumage at Chestertown on July 21, and Janni saw a single bird at Easton on July 26. Jim Stasz reported an exotic female **Australian Shelduck** at Chesapeake Beach during June 15-17.

Diurnal Raptors. Stasz noted an inland **Osprey** flying south at Oakland, Garrett County on June 13, and Farrell and Solem observed another Osprey in Montgomery County gradually adding nesting material to a platform at Triadelphia on July 26. A sighting of an **American Swallow-tailed Kite** flying over Catonsville on June 10 was reported by Edward Boyd. Dotty Mumford and Barbara Ricciardi reported a **Mississippi Kite** in Charles County on June 30. An inland **Bald Eagle** was seen at Greenbelt on June 29 (George Armbruster) and an immature was spotted at Blair's Valley, Washington County on July 10 (Stasz). Summer sightings of **Northern Harriers** included 1 at Denton on June 12 (Fletcher), 3 at Bloodsworth Island on July 4, and 6 at Deal Island WMA on July 18 (Armisteads). An immature **Sharp-shinned Hawk** was observed at Finzel Swamp, Garrett County on June 14 (Stasz, Iliff), and **Cooper's Hawks** included an adult near the Howard County Fairgrounds on June 14 (Stasz, Iliff), an adult in Harford County on July 26 (Stasz), an adult near Chestertown on July 28 (M. O'Brien), and another single bird at Centennial on July 31 (Farrell). Jim Stasz noted single adult **Broad-winged Hawks** at Frog Hollow and at Prettyboy Reservoir on June 27. On June 1, Bill Van Horn found an **American Kestrel** nesting at Centennial; Bockstie and Probst observed a female bringing food to a nestling on June 9, but the nest was empty the next day. Don Broderick noted an adult Kestrel with young at Salisbury on July 19. **Peregrine Falcons** included single birds at Deal Island WMA on June 1 (M. O'Brien, Janni, Pisano), at Stevensville on July 20 (Reese), and at Assateague on July 25 (Hoffman).

Pheasant, Turkey, Rails. The Grubers reported a **Ring-necked Pheasant** at Bakers Lane on July 12, Inez Glime noted 4 adult and 12 young **Wild Turkeys** at Federalsburg on June 18, and Marianna Nuttle found 1 adult and 3 young turkeys at Tanyard on July 23. Jim Stasz discovered a **Black Rail** at Irish Grove Sanctuary, Somerset County on June 6-7, and Harry Armistead reported **Clapper Rails** with 11 at Hooper Island on June 7, 7 at Golden Hill on June 13, 7 at Bloodsworth Island July 4, and 14 at Deal Island WMA on July 18. Harry also noted **Virginia Rails** with 4 at Hooper Island on June 7, 12 near Golden Hill on June 13, and 8 at Deal Island WMA on July 18. An adult with a downy chick was discovered at the Freestate Raceway pond in Howard County on July 23 (Solem, Magnusson). **Soras** were not to be left out this summer with 2 adults and 1 juvenile at the Easton sewage ponds on July 18 (Czaplak) and 3-4 juveniles at the Freestate Raceway little pond site on July 23-24 (Solem, Magnusson, Ringler+) for the first confirmed Howard County breeding record. A **Common Moorhen** was at Hooper Island on June 7 (H. Armistead), another was noted at Tanyard on June 28 and July 20 (Stasz, Iliff), and another at Chesapeake City on July 26 (Stasz). Rick Blom discovered an immature at the Freestate Raceway pond site in Howard County on July 22 and 3 immatures were there on July 23 (Solem, Magnusson).

Plovers, Oystercatchers, Stilts, Avocets. Mark Hoffman and Mike O'Brien noted 15 **Black-bellied Plovers** at Assateague on June 21st, 20 there on July 11, and 15 on July 17. They also counted 12 **Semipalmated Plovers** at Assateague on July 17. Mary Twigg tallied 40 inland **Killdeer** at North Branch on July 17 and Nancy Magnusson checked off 57 at Brown's Bridge, Howard County on July 19. Bob Ringler discovered 2 young **American Oystercatchers** at Ocean City on June 14 and Harry Armistead counted 4 Oystercatchers at Bloodsworth Island on July 4. A trip to Deal Island WMA rendered 2 **Black-necked Stilts** on June 1 (M. O'Brien, Janni, Pisano), and several birders saw 1 to 2 stilts at West Ocean City from June 2 through June 20 (Hoffman+). A single bird was noted at Deal Island WMA on July 18 (H. Armistead). **American Avocets** found in the spring at Hart-Miller were seen into the summer with 11 birds counted on June 4, 2 of which were picking up long strands of grass and appeared to be constructing a nest (Stasz, Iliff). The 11 birds were there again on June 11 increasing to 13 on July 20 (Bob Dixon, Hoffman, M. O'Brien+).

Sandpipers. The **Greater Yellowlegs** at Lake Needwood, Montgomery County on July 13 (Nancy MacClintock), the 6 at Deal Island WMA on July 18 (H. Armistead), the 25 at Assateague on July 18 (M. O'Brien, Hoffman), and the 3 at Courthouse Point on July 19 (Stasz, Iliff) all were first fall migrants. The first fall migrant **Lesser Yellowlegs** were 1 at Cambridge on July 5 (Krueger), 3 at Chesapeake Beach on July 15 (Stasz), the high of 150 at Assateague on July 18 (M. O'Brien, Hoffman), and 4 at Deal Island on July 18 (H. Armistead). After finding the last northbound spring migrant **Solitary Sandpiper** on June 8 at Chesapeake Beach, Jim Stasz notched early southbound birds with 1 at North Beach on July 9, another at Chesapeake Beach on July 11, 2 inland at Negro Mountain, Garrett County on July 12, and 1 at North Branch on July 13. Other Solitaries were single birds at Lake Needwood, Montgomery County on July 13 (Nancy MacClintock), at Herrington Harbor, Anne Arundel County on July 15 (Stasz), at Assateague on July 18 (M. O'Brien, Hoffman), at Piney Dam on July 12 (Ringler), near Massey on July 19 and at Courthouse Point the same day (Stasz, Illif). A western race **Willet** was seen at North Branch on June 11 (M. O'Brien) and again on July 4 (Simons). Two Willets, probably nesting, were found at Kent Narrows on June 18 for the second season in a row (Iliff). Other interesting Willet reports were 42 at Bloodsworth Island on July 4 and 20 at Deal Island WMA on July 18 (Armisteads), and 90 eastern race and 2 westerns at Assateague on July 18 and 2 westerns there on July 25 (M. O'Brien, Hoffman). A very small, downy young **Spotted Sandpiper** was seen at North Branch on July 13 (Stasz) and 8 fall migrants were noted at Assateague on July 18 (M. O'Brien, Hoffman). The **Upland Sandpiper** at New Design Road near Lilypons on June 10 could have been a nesting bird near the species' southeastern breeding area limit (Krueger). Other interesting reports included 4 at Trout Run sewage ponds in Garrett County on June 14 (Stasz), 1 near Hagerstown the same day (Williamsport BBS, M. O'Brien), another at Old Mill and Old Frederick Road, Frederick County on June 20 (Miller), 8 near Lilypons on June 28 (Czaplak), and 30 migrants in a field near Chestertown on July 30 (M. O'Brien, Jim McCann). Fall migrant **Whimbrels** were 3 at Assateague on July 11 (Hoffman) and 122 there on July 18 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 1 the same day at Deal Island WMA (H. Armistead), and 1 at West Ocean City on July 26 (Warfield). Assateague yielded 2 **Hudsonian Godwits** on July 17 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien, Christine Simoes). **Marbled Godwits** were also noted this season with a late spring migrant at Hart-Miller on June 11 (Dixon, Hoffman, M. O'Brien, Simoes), and single fall migrants at Ocean City on July 17 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien, Simoes) and at Hart-Miller on July 20 (Dixon, Blom+). Two late spring migrant **Ruddy Turnstones** were at Black Marsh on June 2 (Wheeler) and another was at Hooper Island on June 5 (Stasz). Mark Hoffman recorded the first fall migrant at Assateague on July 11. Dave Czaplak tallied 20 late spring migrant **Red Knots** at Ocean City on June 5, and Mark Hoffman and Mike O'Brien noted a fall bird there on July 17. Stasz saw 5 late **Sanderlings** at Bivalve on June 5, and Hoffman estimated 100 on the return trip at Assateague on July 18. A late **Semipalmated Sandpiper** at North Branch was a rare find on June 11 (Simons), and an adult fall migrant was noted at Chesapeake Beach on July 15 as were 2 **Western Sandpipers** (Stasz). The high count for migrant Westerns was 100 at Ocean City and Assateague on July 17 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien, Simoes). The first migrant **Least Sandpipers** were single birds at Baltimore on July 3 and Ocean City on July 5 (Krueger), 5 at Assateague on July 3 (Hoffman), 5 at Trout Run on July 11 (Ringler), 14 adults at Chesapeake Beach on July 15 (Stasz), and 2 at Deal Island WMA on July 18 (H. Armistead). **White-rumped Sandpiper** reports were mostly spring migrants running late with 1 on June 2 at Lilypons (Miller), 40+ on June 4 at Hart-Miller (Stasz, Iliff), 1 on June 5 at Cambridge and another on June 7 at Easton (Stasz), up to 25 on June 7 at Ocean City (Czaplak, Janni), and 4 adult birds in breeding plummage on June 10 at Chesapeake Beach (Iliff). Mike O'Brien noted 4 fall migrant White-rumpeds at Hart-Miller on July 20 and 8 were seen there on July 31 (Dixon, Jett, Iliff+). Stasz reported a **Pectoral Sandpiper** at Chesapeake Beach on July 15, but this species slipped by largely

unnoticed. An inland **Dunlin** was found at Brown's Bridge on July 25 (Chestem, Zeichner), an adult **Stilt Sandpiper** was spotted at North Beach on July 17 (Iliff, Stasz), and another was at the Easton sewage ponds on July 19 (M. O'Brien, Hoffman). Hart-Miller yielded a **Ruff** sighting this season with a female noted there on July 20 (Dixon, Blom+). The last of the spring **Short-billed Dowitchers** were 3 at Ocean City on June 14 (Ringler) and 16 at Assateague on June 21 (Hoffman). The 3 birds at Bloodsworth Island on July 4 (Armisteads), and the few spotted in Ocean City and Cambridge on July 5 (Krueger) normally may have been southbound, but this season they may well have been late spring migrants. Stasz noted a hendersoni race at Chesapeake Beach on July 15 and another at Allens Fresh on July 17; the high for July fall migrants was the 290 at Ocean City and Assateague on July 17 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien, Simoes), 3 were at Deal Island WMA on July 18 (H. Armistead), a griseus race was at Courthouse Point on July 19 (Stasz, Illif), 1 bird was at Brown's Bridge the same day (Magnusson, Zeichner, Chestem), 3 hendersoni were present at Easton on July 20 (Stasz), 1 bird was noted near Savage on July 22 (Blom), and another at Triadelphia on July 23 (Zeichner). Mark Hoffman discovered a **Long-billed Dowitcher** at Assateague on July 25. Two juvenile **Wilson's Phalaropes** were at Hart-Miller on July 31 (Dixon, Jett, Iliff+). Pelagic birders tallied 2 **Red-necked Phalaropes** on the June 6 trip out of Ocean City (Scarpulla+).

Jaegers, Gulls. Pelagic birders out of Ocean City were rewarded with a **Pomarine Jaeger** on June 6 (Scarpulla+). The post-breeding dispersal of **Laughing Gulls** was documented with the high report of 7000 at the Worcester County landfill on July 4 (Hoffman), and a juvenile in DC on July 30 (Czaplak). Mike O'Brien and Hoffman saw the first juvenile **Ring-billed Gull** at Assateague on July 18, Simons spotted a Ring-billed inland at Cumberland on July 25 and Czaplak saw 4 juveniles at Cambridge the same day. The Armisteads counted 142 **Herring Gulls** at Bloodsworth Island on July 4 and a first-summer **Thayer's Gull** was discovered at Hart-Miller on July 31 (Dixon, Ricciardi, Jett+). **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** included a first-summer bird at Ocean City on June 1 (M. O'Brien, Janni, Pisano), a third-year there on June 6 (Krueger), and a third-summer at the north end of Assateague on July 17 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien, Simoes). Glenn Therres found a **Great Black-backed Gull** nest with 2 chicks on a pier near the old Bay Bridge in Anne Arundel County on May 28. Czaplak counted 120 Greats at Sandy Point on June 19 and the Armisteads noted 14 at Bloodsworth Island on July 4.

Terns, Skimmers. **Gull-billed Terns** reported were 2 on June 7 at Ocean City (Janni+), 4 on July 11 at Assateague (Hoffman), and 2 on July 20 at Hart-Miller (Dixon, Blom+). Summer **Caspian Terns** were 2 adults at Sandy Point on June 19 (Czaplak), 3 at North Branch on July 3 (Twigg, Simons), 1 at Bloodsworth Island on July 4 (Armisteads), 1 at Assateague on July 11 (Hoffman), 2 at Allens Fresh on July 13 (Jett), and 1 adult at Point Lookout on July 17 (Iliff). Wandering **Royal Terns** included an adult at Greenbury Point, Anne Arundel County on June 4 (Iliff), 4 at Bivalve on June 14 (Ringler), and 8 adults and 2 first-summer birds at Sandy Point on June 19 (Czaplak). Willem Maane reported 40 breeding pairs of Royals at the 4th Street flats in Ocean City on June 25, the Armisteads counted 36 possible breeding birds at Bloodsworth Island on July 4, Iliff tallied 30 adult birds at Point Lookout on July 17, and Jim Stasz noted a single Royal at Courthouse Point on July 26. **Sandwich Terns** were seen off and on at Ocean City with from 1 to 3 adults seen from June 5 to July 27 (M. O'Brien, Hoffman+). One to 3 **Roseate Terns** were at Ocean City on June 7 (Czaplak, Janni, M. O'Brien+) and June 8 (Claudia Wilds). **Arctic Terns** were not to be left out with 1 in summer plumage seen 34 miles out of Ocean City on July 5 (Krueger). **Forster's Terns** were observed this season with 6 at Hog Island on June 4-5 (Engle), an adult at Greenbury Point, Anne Arundel County on June 4 (Iliff), 1 inland at North Branch on July 16 (Twigg), and 150 at Eastern Neck on July 28 (Grubers). Joy Wheeler counted a remarkable 30 **Least Terns** on the roof of the

Sparrows Point High School on June 2; 5 were at Courthouse Point on July 19 and 3 were at Bush River, Harford County on July 19 (Stasz, Iliff). An adult **Black Tern** was at Ocean City on June 5 (Czaplak), an adult at Tanyard on June 7 (Engle, T. Ford), 2 birds at Hughes Hollow on June 23 (Dick Homan), and 1 at Assateague on July 11 and 2 there on July 31 (Hoffman, Simoes). The Armisteads found 21 **Black Skimmers** at Bloodsworth Island on July 4, Stasz noted 2 adults flying north from North Beach on July 6, Hoffman estimated 230 at Ocean City on July 17, and Harry Armistead reported 2 at Deal Island WMA on July 18.

Doves, Cuckoos, Owls, Nighthawks. Mary Twigg estimated over 200 **Mourning Doves** at North Branch on July 21. A **Black-billed Cuckoo** was heard flying over George Island Landing at night on June 1 (M. O'Brien, Janni, Pisano), 2 were heard on June 2 and another on June 22 flying over Anne Arundel County (M. O'Brien), 1 was at Bradford Johnson Road, Kent County on June 20 and another near Huntingtown on June 26 (Stasz), and 1 bird was at Remington on July 12 (Grubers). Five **Yellow-billed Cuckoos** were heard flying over George Island Landing the night of June 1 (M. O'Brien, Janni, Pisano) and 5 were heard flying over Anne Arundel County the night of June 2 (M. O'Brien). Stauffer Miller observed a **Common Barn Owl** raising 3 young in a silo near Rocky Springs, and others were near Penns Hill Road, Charles County on July 3 and near Skeleton Creek Road, Caroline County on July 20 (Stasz, Iliff). A **Chuck-will's-widow** was heard calling at Soldiers Delight, Baltimore County, June 5-18 (Walbeck+), and Jim Stasz reported 2 Chucks at Swan Point Road, Charles County on July 3. Four Chucks were near Oakley on July 17 (Stasz, Iliff). Stasz and Iliff reported single **Whip-poor-wills** at Green Ridge SF, Allegany County on June 12, near Massey on June 19-20, near Mechanicsville on July 17, and at Elk Neck SF, Cecil County on July 26.

Flycatchers, Swallows. Two **Alder Flycatchers** were singing in Annapolis on June 2 (Iliff), another was heard singing at Hart-Miller on June 4 (Stasz, Iliff), and the Grubers banded a **"Traill's Flycatcher"** at Eastern Neck on June 2. Ed Bruce reported a **Willow Flycatcher** singing at Lilypons on June 21, Dick Homan heard 3 singing at different locations at Hughes Hollow on June 23, and the Grubers saw a single bird singing at Remington on July 26. A **Least Flycatcher** was near Dan's Rock, Allegany County on June 13-14 (Stasz, Iliff) and a single Least was in Montgomery County near Triadelphia on July 27 (Iliff). Bob Ringler observed a Least singing at Little Bennett Regional Park on June 20, an unusual location which could indicate breeding on the Piedmont. Ringler also reported a Least on a nest in Garrett County on July 11. Engle noted about 100 **Purple Martins** at Tanyard on July 19. On June 28, 2 **Tree Swallows** were near Detour where they are not traditionally known to nest (Ringler). John Zyla reported total fledged Tree Swallows as follows: 14 at Dueling Creek Natural Area, 14 at Ft. Lincoln Cemetery, 10 at Cheltenham Wetlands Park, 5 at Dyson Road, 3 at University Experience Farm, 8 at Brown Station Landfill, and 6 at Patuxent River Park. Mike O'Brien estimated 400 **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** at Seneca on July 12, 125 **Bank Swallows** at Hart-Miller on July 20, and 5000 Banks near Crumpton, Queen Anne's County on July 29. Jim Stasz noted 58 Banks on telephone wires near Hughes Hollow on July 5 and several migrating at North Beach on July 9. Stasz also reported nesting **Cliff Swallows** at Rocky Gorge Dam, Brighton Dam, Deer Park Road, Prettyboy Dam, Dulaney Valley Road Bridge, and Jennings Randolph Lake. Dave Czaplak noted 2 fledgling **Barn Swallows** in DC on June 4, Magnusson saw 2 at Schooley Mill on June 27, and Twigg estimated over 200 at Dan's Rock on July 29.

Corvids, Nuthatches, Creepers. Tony White noted two **Common Ravens** at Sugarloaf Mountain on June 6. Single **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were reported at Swallow Falls SP on June 14 (Stasz, Iliff), and at Denton on July 14th and 23rd (Nuttle). A **Brown**

Creeper was singing at Maple Glade Road, Garrett County on June 14 (Stasz, Iliff) and another was singing at Bozman on July 4 (Richard Kleen).

Wrens, Kinglets, Thrushes. A **Winter Wren** was noted singing at Swallow Falls SP from May 23 through July 11 (Stasz, M. O'Brien+). Marshall Iliff tallied 65 **Marsh Wrens** at Allens Fresh on July 17, and Harry Armistead totaled 55 at Deal Island WMA on July 18. Connie Skipper saw 2 **Golden-crowned Kinglets** exhibiting breeding behavior along Walnut Bottom Road in Garrett County on June 10. A **Veery** was banded at Eastern Neck on June 23, and another was singing at Chevy Chase on June 30 and July 1 (Mark Garland). A **Gray-cheeked Thrush** was heard flying over Georges Island Landing at night on June 1 as were 3 **Swainson's Thrushes** (M. O'Brien, Janni, Pisano). Another Swainson's was banded at Eastern Neck on June 1 and 4 more were heard flying over Anne Arundel County on June 2 (M. O'Brien). A **Hermit Thrush** nest found by the staff of the Savage River SF in Garrett County held 2 eggs on July 10 and 3 eggs on July 12 (Stasz, Chan Robbins). The Grubers counted 35 **American Robins** in one flock at Eastern Neck on July 20, and Skipper noted a **Northern Mockingbird** in Garrett County on June 30.

Waxwings, Shrikes, Starlings, Vireos. There were 43 **Cedar Waxwings** at Schooley Mill on June 1 (Magnusson), a single waxwing was seen near Madison on June 28 (H. Armistead), and 27 were at Schooley Mill on June 28 (Magnusson). A **Loggerhead Shrike** was reported by several birders near Lilypons from June 6 (Tony White) through July 12 (Jim Green, Jett). Stasz found a shrike nest in some Sassafras albidum at Lilypons on July 5, and Iliff noted 3 juveniles there on July 27. An albino **European Starling** was seen at Rocky Gorge Dam, Prince George's County on July 11 (Ed Bruce). Two **Warbling Vireos** were at Blue Mount, Baltimore County on June 27 and singing birds were noted at two locations along Bohemia Church Road, Cecil County on July 19 (Stasz, Iliff).

Warblers. A **Blue-winged Warbler** found at Finzel Swamp on June 13 may have mated with a Golden-winged (Illif, Stasz). Czaplak counted 7 Blue-wings at Blair's Valley Lake on June 14. A **Nashville Warbler** was near Jennings, Garrett County on July 13 (Stasz). Four **Yellow Warblers** were banded at Eastern Neck on June 20, 2 migrant birds were at Ocean City on July 20 (Iliff), another Yellow was at North Branch on July 25 (Twigg), and another migrant was at Hillsmere Shores on July 26 (Iliff). A **Chestnut-sided Warbler** was at Green Ridge SF, Allegany County on June 13 (Stasz, Iliff, Simons), and a nest with young was found there on July 11 (M. O'Brien). Adult Chestnut-sideds were observed feeding young in a nest near New Germany SP on July 11 for the latest nestling date for the State (Ringler). A **Magnolia Warbler** was banded at Eastern Neck on June 1 where a **Black-throated Green Warbler** was seen the same day (Grubers), Janni found another Magnolia in DC on June 3, and a Black-throated Green was singing at Gaithersburg on June 6 (Hilton). Interesting **Blackpoll Warbler** reports were of single birds: heard at Denton during June 1-9 (Nuttle), in Kensington on June 2 (Julie Kelly), at Eastern Neck on June 4 (Grubers), in DC on June 10 (Janni), heard in Timonium on June 29 (Hank Kaestner), a late bird calling at Feagaville on July 2 (Miller), and heard at Denton on July 15 (Nuttle). Marshall Iliff discovered a **Cerulean Warbler** at Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Anne Arundel County on July 6. Three **American Redstarts** were banded at Eastern Neck on June 2 and another was there on July 20 (Grubers). A singing male **Prothonotary Warbler** was near Bruceville on June 21 for only the fourth Carroll County record (Ringler). Five fledgling Prothonotaries were observed at Colmar Manor (Zyla). Stasz and Jett counted 8 **Worm-eating Warblers** near Law's Ditch, Wicomico County on June 7, Dave Czaplak found a nest with 5 chicks at Indian Springs on June 13, a Worm-eating Warbler was banded at Eastern Neck on June 20, and over 30 were in

Indian Springs WMA, Washington County on July 10 (Stasz). The Grubers banded an **Ovenbird**, a **Northern Waterthrush**, and a **Louisiana Waterthrush** at Eastern Neck on June 28 and Mike O'Brien noted a probable migrant Louisiana in Rockville on July 13. A **Mourning Warbler** was heard singing in Annapolis on June 6 (Iliff). A **Canada Warbler** was banded at Eastern Neck on June 1.

Grosbeaks, Dickcissels, Sparrows. Bob Ringler discovered a late migrant **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** at Gillis Falls Park, Carroll County on June 7. Stasz heard a Rose-breasted along Catholic Church Road, Washington County on July 10 and saw a female **Blue Grosbeak** carrying out a broken wing display at Blanco Road, Queen Anne's County on June 20. Ed Bruce reported a breeding pair of Blue Grosbeaks in DC on June 27, Jim Green noted a single bird at Lilypons on July 5, and 3 were in western Hagerstown Valley, Washington County on July 10 (Stasz). Two **Dickcissels** were seen at Cap Stine Road, Frederick County, June 14 - July 18 (MIller+). A **Vesper Sparrow** was heard singing in Hurlock, Dorchester County, an unusual site for this species, on June 13 and July 26 (Ringler). Another Vesper was singing at Eger Price Road, Cecil County on June 20 and 2 were near Four Corners, Caroline County on June 28 (Stasz), 2 were singing at Cap Stine Road, Frederick County on July 4 (Hilton), and 6 were singing along Eger Price Road on July 19 (Stasz). Krueger heard 4-5 **Savannah Sparrows** singing near Lilypons on June 10, and Hilton discovered at least 5 **Grasshopper Sparrows** near Cap Stine Road, Frederick County on July 4. **Henslow's Sparrow** reports included 6 at Finzel Swamp, Garrett County on May 23 (Stasz), 6 near the Glades on June 1 (M. O'Brien, Janni, Pisano), 3 at Finzel on June 13 (Stasz, Iliff), 4 still present there on July 4 (Walbeck+), and from 4 to 8, including 3 juveniles, in Garrett County, June 30-July 16 (Skipper). A **Sharp-tailed Sparrow** was at North Point on June 4 and another was at Chesapeake Beach on June 16 (Stasz, Iliff). The Armisteads counted 47 **Seaside Sparrows** at Bloodsworth Island on July 4, 2 were singing at Allens Fresh on July 17 (Stasz, Iliff), and 55 were tallied at Deal Island WMA on July 18 (H. Armistead). **Swamp Sparrows** included 2 singing at Eastern Neck on June 20 and 7 singing at Allens Fresh on July 17 (Stasz), and 1 at Easton on July 25 (Reese). The Slaughters noted a male **Dark-eyed Junco** at a feeder in Cockeysville on June 5.

Bobolinks, Cowbirds, Purple Finches, Siskins. **Bobolinks** were migrating extremely early with single birds seen at Allens Fresh on July 17 (Stasz, Iliff), at Courthouse Point on July 19 (Stasz), at Easton on July 19 (M. O'Brien), at Kennedyville on July 24 (Grubers), and at Easton on July 25 (Reese). Teresa Simons found a Bobolink nesting near Dan's Rock on June 13. The Grubers counted an alarming 40 **Brown-headed Cowbirds** in one flock at Eastern Neck on July 20. Bob Ringler noted a family group of **Purple Finches**, including 3 young, at Finzel Swamp on July 12. Two **Pine Siskins** were noted at Swallow Falls SP on June 1 (M. O'Brien, Janni, Pisano), seen again on June 14 (Stasz, Iliff), and June 20-21 (Czaplak). Stasz found 1 siskin at New Germany SP on July 13.

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BOOK REVIEWS

BIRDS OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY Paintings by John W. Taylor with Natural Histories and Journal Notes by the Artist. Johns Hopkins Univ. Press. 1992. 78pp. $34.95.

We all have favorite images of Chesapeake birds, images that are as clear as reality one day but fade in and out in the fog of our memories the next. Would it be magic to be able to turn the pages of these images in vibrant color and leaf through them at will? The Hopkins Press has made this possible by publishing 39 of Taylor's paintings, 10x11½", many of them familiar through publication of the now defunct *Maryland Conservationist.* Taylor, Maryland's best known bird artist, painted Maryland's first duck stamp, the 1974 and 1979 migratory waterfowl stamps, and four of Maryland's conservation stamps and prints. In Cylburn Mansion's third floor Nature Museum, one of Taylor's conservation prints, poster size, a Great Blue Heron at Jug Bay, hangs beside a mounted specimen of the bird. It makes an arresting display, lending a dimension to the bird that would be lost without it.

Taylor has filled the page opposite each painting with a selection of his journal notes, complete with date and locations well known to us: Whimbrels at Irish Grove Sanctuary and Monie Bay, a Sora in the Patuxent River wild rice, Common Terns at Sandy Point, Common Yellowthroats at Muddy River in Anne Arundel County, Red-winged Blackbird at Elliott Island. The combinations of bird names, familiar locations, descriptions of circumstances surrounding the remembered sighting, and the italicized column of information in addition to the spectacular pictures demand that the book be read.

Lucky are the people whose names are listed in the back of the book as being owners of some of the paintings. But now the reader of the book can have access to 39 of Taylor's most pleasing works at a more accessible cost. John Taylor has kindly inscribed a copy of Birds of the Chesapeake Bay for Cylburn's library. This should add to all the other good reasons for visiting Cylburn.

Joy Wheeler

RECENT BOOKS BY M.O.S. MEMBERS

The space dedicated to book reviews in *Maryland Birdlife* is so small that many good books are never reviewed here, including too many by our own members. In the few lines available here we bring to your attention several recent books by our members that we believe you will want to obtain or at least know about.

John Dennis published *Summer Bird Feeding* (The Audubon Workshop, 1500 Paddock Dr., Northbrook, IL 60062, $9.95 pbk) in 1988–his third book on feeding birds or gardening for wildlife. In the same year the Louisiana State University Press published his handsomely illustrated hardback volume on *The Great Cypress Swamps*, $29.95.

Brooke Meanley's *The Marsh Hen*, published in 1985 (Cornell Maritime Press, P.O. Box 456, Centreville, Maryland 21617), presents a highly readable natural history of the Clapper Rail, $8.95.

Roger Tory Peterson collaborated in 1989 with Antony Diamond, Rudolph Shreiber, and Walter Cronkite to produce (Houghton Mifflin, $39.95) *Save the Birds*, a landmark conservation volume that everyone should read.

Claudia Wilds' *Finding Birds in the National Capital Area* (Smithsonian, $14.95 pbk) was revised in 1992. —*Ed.*

A GUIDE TO THE BIRDS OF COSTA RICA. F. Gary Stiles and Alexander F. Skutch. Illustrated by Dana Gardner. Comstock Publishing Associates, A Division of Cornell University Press, Ithaca, New York. 1989. 511 pp. with index. $32.50.

There's no better way to become acquainted with a new field guide than to pack it up and go to the area it describes. Better still, go with 8 other people all armed with copies of the book, and have as guide to the entire expedition an attractive Costa Rican woman who had worked with the authors as they were gathering materials for this impressive volume. I must confess that I do not do my homework before setting out on a trip so I was almost innocent of what this marvelous book had in store. The long airplane trip did give me enough time to read the first 60 pages with information on geography, climate, habitats, and maps. I also found the history of Costa Rican avifauna predating the formation of the present day land mass. Somewhat troubling was the discussion of the future of Costa Rican birds if strong conservation measures are not followed to take into consideration the Web of Life into which Costa Rican bird life fits so neatly, sometimes so precariously. I was to find the illustrated glossary of anatomical terms, 118 of them, very useful when trying to identify 200 of the 850+ possible species. If you can resist the temptation to skip ahead, the very next chapter describing the organization of the book will be useful. But before you dip into the heart of the book (the species accounts and illustrations) go to two valuable chapters in the back: "Birding in Costa Rica" and "Some Birding Localities" (70 mentioned in a country the size of West Virginia).

Now you may go to the family and species accounts. You will marvel at the authors' ability to reduce descriptive ornithology to a minimum of words while allowing you to relate the bird you see in the field to the bird pictured in the book. And the pictures! Conveniently centered in the book are 52 colored plates of birds, none of them as brilliant as the real thing, of course, but as close to it as artistically possible. Dana Gardner is one of the foremost bird artists working today, and this is proof. He makes delicate distinctions among the yellow paleness of the vireos, the brown sameness of the woodcreepers. The way he illuminates the pages with the riotous reds, blues and greens of trogons, motmots, and toucans makes this more than just a field guide.

If you last visited Costa Rica without this book, you have good reason to make another trip, if you need an excuse, that is. If you are making your first trip, be sure to carry it along. Its value far outweighs its avoirdupois, heavy as it is. Test it for yourself. I'm sure you will agree.— *Joy G. Wheeler*

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